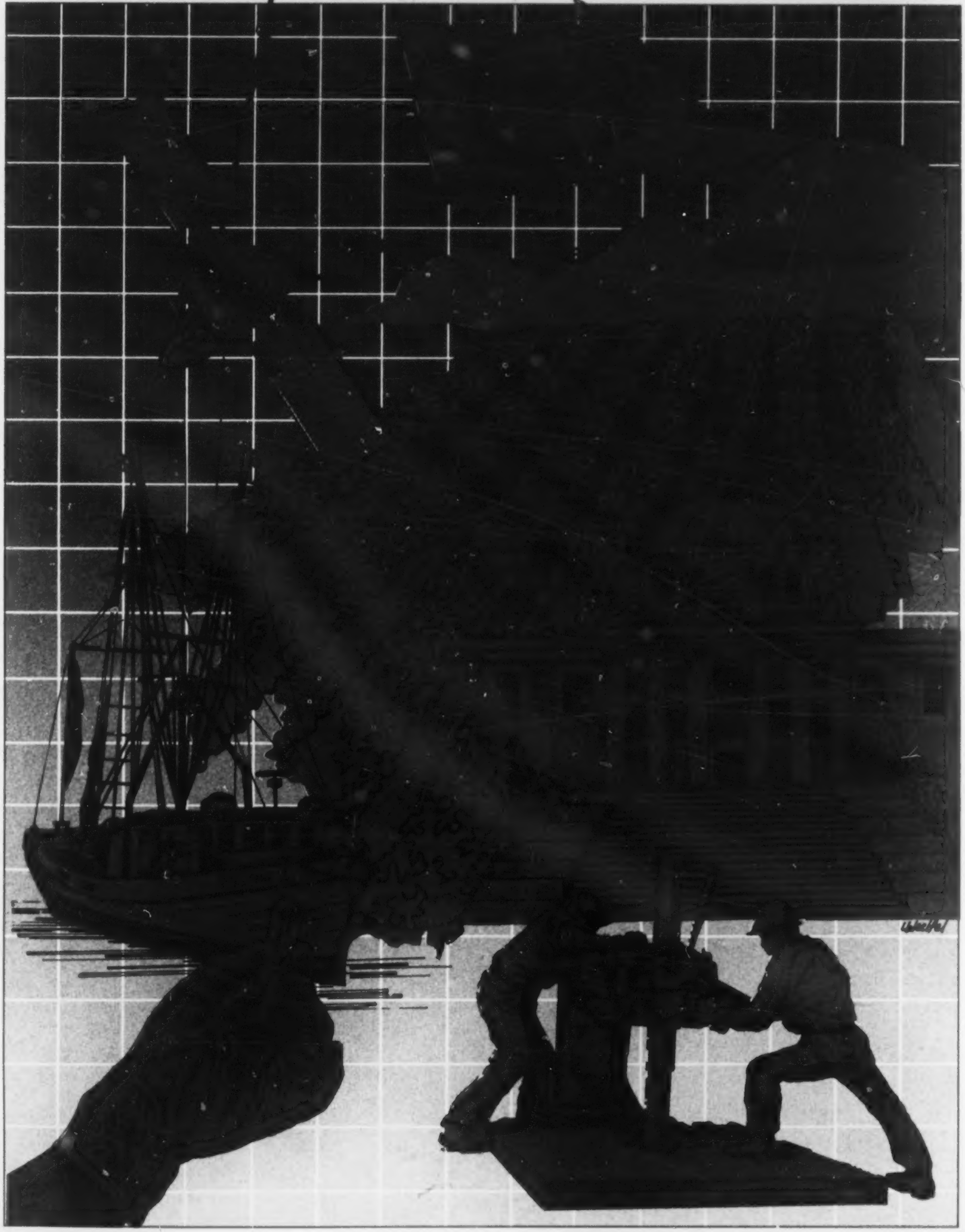
VSG 80-1

Alabama Business

CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH



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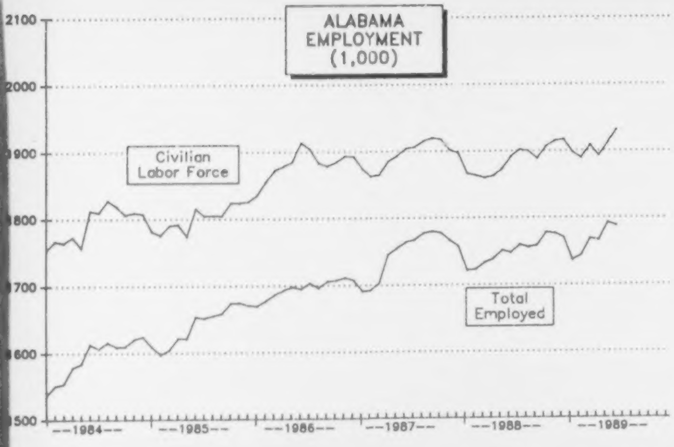
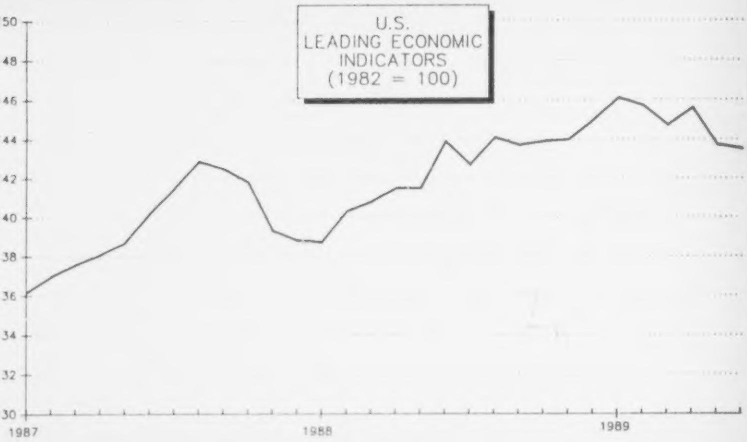
ALABAMA BUSINESS AT A GLANCE

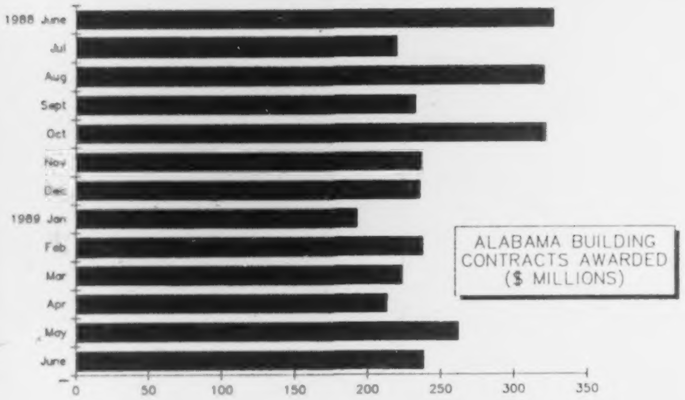
ALABAMA EMPLOYMENT



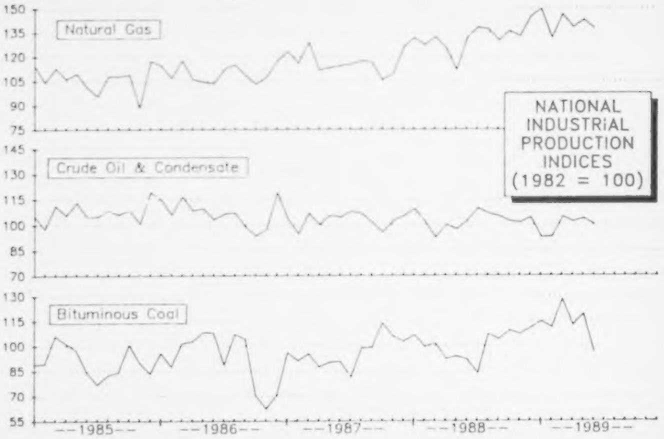
LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS



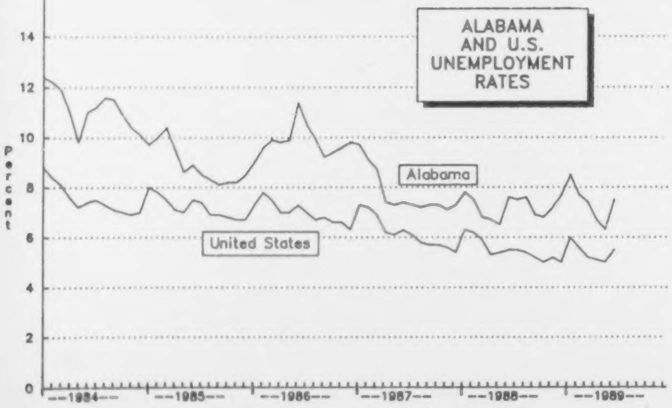
ALABAMA BUILDING CONTRACTS AWARDED



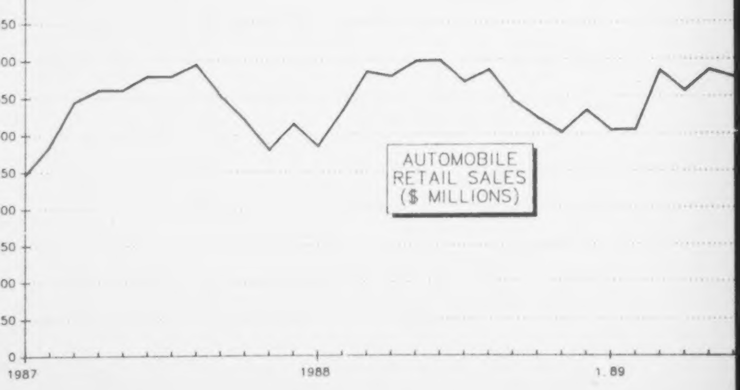
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDICES



STATE AND NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



AUTOMOTIVE RETAIL SALES



GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988							1989					
	1987	1988	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production[1] *(1,000 net tons)*	24,870	26,055	1,980	1,803	2,312	2,242	2,360	2,311	2,393	2,478	2,394	2,765	2,426	2,575	2,077
Natural gas production *(1,000,000 cu. ft.)*	155,990	176,008	14,684	15,402	15,290	14,497	15,160	14,782	16,141	16,717	14,672	16,342	15,407	15,937	15,340
Cotton consumption *(1,000 lbs.)*	483,311	482,002	39,314	30,533	46,253	43,208	41,496	39,776	37,268	41,932	39,300	45,356	41,760	49,634	50,094
Crude oil and condensate production[2] *(1,000 barrels)*	20,621	20,597	1,712	1,835	1,781	1,754	1,706	1,691	1,745	1,547	1,556	1,750	1,700	1,734	1,671
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	24,675	26,008	2,225	2,140	2,336	2,227	2,198	2,210	2,120	2,098	2,155	2,174	2,247	2,319	
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production *(1,000 net tons)*	6,904	6,977	579	615	579	590	579	531	595	619	551	583	613	574	578
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] *($1,000)*	3,114,400	3,508,200	320,600	213,400	320,600	233,200	321,700	236,600	236,300	193,000	238,000	224,300	213,700	262,300	238,700
Residential	1,340,300	1,140,300	116,100	99,000	101,800	92,500	87,800	87,500	90,800	69,700	82,300	89,700	97,700	99,200	118,000
Nonresidential	1,009,700	1,454,700	94,000	59,200	96,600	81,500	93,300	93,600	78,400	107,600	57,400	89,300	62,300	112,700	86,100
Public works and utilities	764,300	913,200	110,500	55,200	122,200	59,100	140,700	55,500	67,100	15,600	98,300	45,500	53,600	50,400	34,600
Cement consumption *(1,000 net tons)*	1,401	1,398	132	113	129	111	126	115	111	93	76	111	123	126	100
TAX COLLECTIONS															
Title of Tax *($1,000)*															
Total	3,052,983	3,184,030	251,194	228,259	268,782	274,317	242,778	270,761	255,829	271,830	260,683	333,788	330,038	342,359	283,213
Franchise	85,027	81,609	6,634	682	6,535	5,129	1,189	464	573	757	2,135	55,015	3,217	1,477	5,560
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	213,006	220,608	18,884	19,280	18,392	18,570	19,000	17,717	20,244	19,904	17,293	17,125	17,397	21,422	20,102
Income	1,249,376	1,296,181	111,394	55,974	125,306	112,966	65,791	120,789	106,266	86,088	133,760	138,344	150,169	184,870	128,874
Motor fuels	56,856	60,244	4,290	4,689	5,283	4,199	4,865	7,179	4,967	5,202	5,055	5,909	4,198	6,592	4,607
Oil/gas privilege	35,150	35,493	2,380	2,748	2,702	2,955	2,444	2,688	2,639	3,154	2,436	3,207	2,879	3,462	6,203
Oil/gas production	9,962	10,432	724	778	806	866	731	885	856	861	721	948	828	1,046	1,701
Sales	810,128	844,582	70,834	72,819	69,965	71,299	71,097	72,229	77,565	80,724	62,558	71,945	67,748	82,276	76,227
2.2% gross receipts	57,351	59,202	17	14,615	43	7	15,039	108	8	14,762	312	1	14,641	422	30
TVA electric	47,383	52,522	4,220	4,220	4,220	4,220	5,449	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545
Tobacco	72,605	71,847	6,470	6,328	5,892	5,984	6,261	5,650	6,477	5,596	5,359	5,499	5,962	6,082	6,225
Use	88,397	97,843	1,553	21,997	1,862	1,460	21,941	1,577	1,302	22,706	1,847	1,315	20,350	2,212	932
Utility	165,984	171,014	14,217	13,463	15,604	14,877	13,604	14,143	14,517	15,968	15,032	14,754	13,333	13,527	13,794
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index, U.S. *(1982-84 = 100)*															
All items	113.6	118.3	118.0	118.5	119.0	119.8	120.2	120.3	120.5	121.1	121.6	122.3	123.1	123.8	124.1
Percent change	4.3	4.3	.4	.4	.4	.7	.3	.1	.2	.5	.4	.6	.7	.6	.2
Food	113.5	118.2	117.6	118.8	119.4	120.2	120.3	120.2	120.7	122.2	122.9	123.5	124.2	124.9	125.0
Housing	114.2	118.5	118.6	119.1	119.5	119.9	119.9	119.9	120.2	120.7	121.1	121.5	121.6	122.1	122.9
Fuel and utilities	103.0	104.4	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.4	105.4	104.3	105.0	106.0	105.9	105.9	106.2	107.0	109.2
Apparel and upkeep	110.6	115.4	114.6	112.7	112.6	117.8	120.7	119.9	118.0	115.3	115.3	119.3	120.9	120.4	117.8
Transportation	105.4	108.7	108.5	108.9	109.6	109.7	110.0	110.7	110.8	111.1	111.6	111.9	114.6	116.0	115.9
Medical care	130.1	138.6	138.2	139.3	139.9	140.4	141.2	141.8	142.3	143.8	145.2	146.1	146.8	147.5	148.5
Energy	88.6	89.3	91.0	91.4	92.3	91.9	89.9	88.9	88.7	89.0	89.3	89.8	94.9	97.4	99.0
Producer Price Index, U.S. *(1982 = 100)*															
All commodities	102.8	106.9	107.2	107.8	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	109.0	110.5	110.8	111.5	112.3	113.1	112.8
Industrial commodities	102.6	106.3	106.4	106.7	107.0	106.8	107.1	107.5	108.1	109.6	110.1	110.6	111.7	112.4	112.3
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S.															
As measured by															
Consumer prices *(1982-84 = $1.000)*	.880	.846	.847	.844	.840	.835	.832	.831	.830	.826	.822	.818	.812	.808	.806
Wholesale prices *(1982 = $1.000)*	.973	.935	.933	.928	.926	.925	.924	.923	.917	.905	.903	.897	.890	.884	.887
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT[4]															
Civilian labor force *(1,000 workers)*	1,895.0	1,887.0	1,891.6	1,902.1	1,899.6	1,888.0	1,906.7	1,914.9	1,917.2	1,897.6	1,888.8	1,908.9	1,892.1	1,911.8	1,931.7
Unemployment	147.0	136.0	144.1	142.5	144.1	129.5	129.1	138.6	147.3	161.7	144.9	140.4	126.1	119.6	144.3
Unemployment rate	7.8	7.2	7.6	7.5	7.6	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.7	8.5	7.7	7.4	6.7	6.3	7.5
Employment	1,748.0	1,751.0	1,747.5	1,759.6	1,755.5	1,758.5	1,777.6	1,776.3	1,769.9	1,735.9	1,743.9	1,768.5	1,766.0	1,792.2	1,787.4
Nonagricultural	1,507.7	1,549.7	1,564.3	1,560.5	1,546.4	1,551.6	1,554.4	1,579.5	1,567.2	1,549.8	1,556.0	1,559.5	1,566.9	1,578.7	1,575.2
Manufacturing	368.8	379.0	382.8	381.0	380.2	380.1	380.8	382.0	380.7	381.0	383.8	382.7	385.3	385.7	387.4
Durable goods	178.0	184.4	185.8	186.0	184.5	185.2	186.9	187.3	187.0	186.9	187.5	187.0	188.6	189.2	189.0
Lumber and wood products	29.9	30.4	30.9	30.9	31.0	30.9	30.8	30.6	30.4	30.3	30.3	30.5	30.7	30.8	31.0
Stone, clay, glass products	9.7	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	9.9
Primary metals	25.5	27.0	27.1	26.9	27.1	27.4	27.6	27.7	27.8	27.9	28.1	28.0	28.2	28.2	28.3
Fabricated metals	22.0	21.5	21.5	21.2	21.5	21.3	21.3	21.3	21.2	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.6	21.6	21.5
Machinery (excl. electrical)	21.6	26.8	26.8	27.0	27.2	26.9	27.7	27.8	28.1	27.7	28.0	28.2	28.5	28.5	28.4
Electrical, electronic equip.	22.5	20.4	20.3	20.5	19.9	20.3	20.7	20.9	20.4	20.7	20.8	20.1	20.6	21.1	20.6
Transportation	28.6	29.5	30.1	30.6	28.9	29.4	29.7	29.7	29.9	29.9	29.9	29.7	29.8	30.3	30.6
Other durable goods	18.2	18.7	18.9	18.6	18.7	18.8	18.8	18.9	18.8	18.7	18.8	18.9	19.1	10.6	18.7
Nondurable goods	190.8	194.6	197.0	195.0	195.6	194.9	193.9	194.7	193.7	194.1	196.3	195.7	196.7	196.5	198.4
Food	31.2	32.2	32.2	32.4	32.9	32.6	32.8	32.8	32.6	32.6	33.0	32.7	33.6	33.8	34.4
Textile mill products	39.0	40.4	40.7	40.4	40.2	40.2	40.6	40.7	40.9	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.8	40.4	40.8
Apparel	55.9	56.2	58.0	56.4	56.9	56.3	55.1	55.0	54.2	54.9	56.5	56.0	56.2	56.3	57.0
Paper and allied products	21.1	21.1	21.2	21.3	21.2	21.1	20.8	21.7	21.3	21.1	20.9	21.0	20.9	21.1	21.4
Printing and publishing	12.7	12.7	12.6	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.7	13.0	13.1	13.2	13.2	13.0	13.0	12.9
Chemicals and allied products	11.2	11.1	11.0	10.8	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3
Rubber products	17.5	18.6	19.0	18.8	18.6	18.9	18.7	18.4	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.5	18.4	18.2	18.1
Other nondurable goods	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5
Nonmanufacturing	1,138.9	1,170.7	1,181.5	1,179.5	1,166.3	1,171.5	1,173.6	1,197.5	1,186.5	1,168.8	1,172.2	1,176.8	1,181.6	1,193.0	1,187.8
Mining and quarrying	11.3	11.2	11.1	11.4	11.1	11.0	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.4
Bituminous coal mining	8.1	7.7	7.7	8.0	7.6	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3
Contract construction	75.1	77.4	80.7	81.1	80.2	78.7	78.2	77.0	76.5	71.4	72.1	73.2	74.3	75.2	74.9
Trans., comm., and utilities	73.3	79.0	79.6	80.4	80.2	79.1	78.9	79.2	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.7	79.4	79.5	79.5
Trade	331.7	339.5	339.9	339.0	341.3	341.4	344.0	347.9	355.2	344.7	341.6	341.9	343.2	344.1	345.5
Wholesale	78.4	79.5	79.9	79.3	79.6	80.0	80.4	80.2	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.4	80.7	80.8	81.3
Retail	253.3	259.9	260.0	259.7	261.7	261.4	263.6	267.7	274.9	264.7	261.6	261.5	262.5	263.3	264.2
Finance, insurance, real estate	70.5	70.2	70.6	71.1	70.7	70.6	70.6	70.6	70.8	70.2	70.6	71.1	71.1	71.3	71.6
Service and miscellaneous	276.5	284.4	286.6	286.6	287.4	288.8	282.8	283.3	284.3	282.1	284.0	285.9	287.5	294.8	295.1
Government	300.6	308.9	313.0	309.9	295.4	301.9	307.8	328.1	309.3	309.8	313.3	313.7	314.8	316.8	309.8
Federal	65.9	65.6	65.8	65.5	65.1	64.7	65.0	64.8	64.1	63.8	63.9	63.8	63.9	64.2	65.1
State and local	234.7	243.4	247.2	244.4	230.3	237.2	242.8	263.3	245.2	246.0	249.4	249.9	250.9	252.6	244.7

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988							1989					
	1987	1988	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	224,282	240,540	21,653	25,181	23,546	22,664	21,985	20,729	16,488	24,750	19,639	23,116	17,324	22,609	......
Nonagricultural placements	96,391	107,113	7,324	15,639	13,802	9,591	8,553	8,494	6,711	6,593	7,002	8,377	7,345	9,439	......
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	349,204	348,271	21,062	42,444	30,583	21,909	24,517	25,161	28,031	59,343	23,782	24,455	19,828	23,235	......
Payments *($1,000)*	165,953	140,632	10,617	11,248	12,315	10,195	9,492	11,406	12,412	16,421	13,471	15,505	11,260	11,636	......
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	16,116	15,782	15,640	15,850	15,920	15,970	16,080	16,240	16,090	15,800	15,990	16,050	15,920	16,120	16,130
	7.0	6.1	5.6	5.5	7.1	7.4	6.7	7.8	7.0	6.9	7.6	6.2	6.4	6.7	7.7
Baldwin	39,863	39,573	39,380	40,470	39,440	39,530	39,390	39,790	40,030	39,560	39,220	39,820	39,050	39,370	39,610
	7.6	8.1	8.4	8.6	7.1	8.6	7.4	7.8	8.6	9.0	7.7	7.4	6.4	5.9	6.7
Barbour	11,648	12,091	12,340	12,240	12,220	12,130	12,320	12,430	12,370	12,300	12,140	12,380	12,170	12,150	12,260
	8.0	7.5	8.6	8.3	8.6	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.4	10.1	8.5	7.8	7.1	6.7	8.0
Bibb	7,278	7,212	7,340	7,310	7,430	7,350	7,210	7,280	7,170	7,220	7,000	7,020	6,950	7,050	7,300
	11.1	10.0	9.3	9.0	9.9	8.8	9.5	9.9	13.9	16.3	8.6	7.9	7.7	6.8	8.0
Blount	17,620	17,172	17,100	16,990	17,180	16,980	17,190	17,250	17,410	17,160	17,010	17,220	16,990	17,170	17,390
	7.3	6.8	7.0	5.6	6.0	5.2	5.5	6.6	6.9	7.5	6.2	5.8	5.1	4.6	5.7
Bullock	3,801	4,405	4,590	4,570	4,460	4,380	4,460	4,540	4,410	4,390	4,220	4,220	4,230	4,220	4,420
	14.4	13.5	16.3	16.7	15.7	13.7	13.2	13.3	13.4	14.3	11.6	11.8	11.3	10.2	14.2
Butler	9,599	9,266	9,470	9,680	9,460	9,190	9,230	9,470	9,280	9,140	9,160	9,150	8,970	8,920	9,450
	10.6	10.4	8.2	8.6	11.4	11.0	12.2	13.8	13.3	15.9	15.8	12.8	11.7	11.2	16.3
Calhoun	51,596	52,094	51,970	52,130	52,190	52,050	52,140	52,490	52,810	52,400	51,980	51,430	51,870	52,470	53,020
	7.8	7.3	8.2	8.8	8.8	6.7	6.2	6.7	7.0	8.4	7.3	7.6	7.6	6.1	7.3
Chambers	17,510	17,075	17,110	17,120	17,090	16,940	17,070	17,120	17,110	16,840	16,600	16,730	16,520	16,640	16,820
	5.9	5.4	6.0	6.7	6.0	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.7	6.7	5.7	5.8	5.2	5.9	7.2
Cherokee	7,970	8,308	8,320	8,480	8,340	8,260	8,390	8,610	8,480	8,500	8,320	8,360	8,290	8,230	8,510
	8.7	7.5	7.5	11.1	9.2	7.1	6.6	6.9	7.7	10.4	8.3	7.3	8.0	7.1	10.0
Chilton	15,588	14,836	14,860	14,830	14,710	14,830	14,920	15,200	15,000	15,090	14,890	14,790	14,800	14,900	15,080
	9.5	7.9	7.5	7.6	8.0	7.7	7.3	8.4	9.5	10.1	8.1	7.7	7.3	6.7	8.0
Choctaw	7,003	7,078	7,100	7,240	7,180	6,980	7,030	7,390	7,060	7,130	7,000	6,960	6,910	7,010	7,140
	10.0	9.5	9.3	13.2	9.2	8.6	9.3	10.8	10.5	12.7	11.0	10.1	9.7	8.9	9.8
Clarke	11,461	11,513	11,500	11,480	11,550	11,470	11,330	11,460	11,630	11,510	11,320	11,340	11,070	11,160	11,540
	11.2	10.6	10.9	10.1	10.5	9.6	8.3	8.5	11.2	12.7	11.0	10.3	8.6	7.9	10.7
Clay	6,146	6,152	6,090	6,170	6,180	6,130	6,210	6,240	6,230	6,240	6,270	6,510	6,380	6,500	6,430
	8.9	7.7	9.1	9.3	9.1	7.4	6.7	5.6	6.6	7.3	6.8	14.8	5.7	6.7	8.2
Cleburne	5,431	5,433	5,380	5,360	5,430	5,410	5,710	5,830	5,640	5,610	5,490	5,640	5,740	5,770	5,830
	7.2	6.5	7.4	6.6	6.6	5.7	4.5	4.5	5.5	9.2	6.9	6.4	7.3	4.8	5.5
Coffee	17,960	18,068	18,080	18,010	18,000	17,810	18,260	18,320	18,080	18,010	18,000	18,300	18,100	18,070	18,410
	6.3	6.5	7.1	6.9	6.5	6.1	6.3	7.1	7.3	7.3	6.2	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.9
Colbert	23,872	23,713	23,750	24,000	23,680	23,540	23,950	24,020	24,220	24,050	23,940	24,280	23,850	23,950	24,110
	10.2	9.2	9.3	9.6	9.6	8.2	9.1	9.4	10.5	12.6	11.5	11.5	9.5	8.6	9.5
Conecuh	6,009	5,623	5,650	5,650	5,540	5,530	5,590	5,770	5,710	5,660	5,540	5,560	5,510	5,520	5,580
	16.0	10.9	10.7	10.3	10.4	10.2	9.3	9.9	12.6	12.3	11.4	10.8	9.7	8.6	11.5
Coosa	4,988	4,952	4,960	5,060	4,950	4,960	5,030	5,010	4,960	4,890	4,850	4,940	4,970	4,960	5,050
	5.5	6.2	6.3	7.5	6.4	5.8	5.5	7.2	8.1	8.2	7.4	7.7	5.8	5.6	6.7
Covington	17,413	17,374	17,250	17,350	17,320	17,070	17,480	17,890	18,060	17,800	17,560	17,650	17,420	17,580	17,760
	7.5	7.8	7.0	7.8	7.7	7.3	9.4	9.1	9.4	9.5	8.4	7.9	6.5	5.9	7.0
Crenshaw	6,538	6,777	6,810	6,830	6,880	6,820	6,990	7,120	6,900	6,920	6,810	6,930	6,850	6,920	7,050
	9.2	7.0	7.2	7.0	6.6	6.4	5.8	7.0	7.4	9.1	7.0	6.5	6.1	5.9	7.3
Cullman	31,713	32,049	32,630	32,170	32,300	32,260	32,610	33,060	32,770	32,580	31,990	32,420	32,270	32,610	32,980
	7.7	7.3	7.2	6.7	7.5	6.7	6.8	7.3	7.7	6.7	7.6	7.1	5.9	5.5	6.1
Dale	17,831	17,971	18,240	18,130	17,940	17,920	18,230	18,290	18,420	18,130	18,010	18,310	18,180	18,500	18,610
	7.5	7.8	9.0	8.3	7.8	7.6	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.9	8.1	8.2	7.0	7.4	8.1
Dallas	21,371	20,411	20,700	20,810	20,630	20,270	20,480	20,470	20,350	20,140	19,970	20,090	19,900	20,030	20,470
	14.6	12.1	12.4	12.3	12.9	12.2	11.4	11.4	11.9	12.5	12.1	11.3	10.8	10.6	12.5
DeKalb	29,014	29,821	30,170	30,290	30,150	29,650	30,320	30,670	30,410	30,170	29,830	30,470	30,230	30,170	31,020
	7.8	7.3	7.6	7.9	7.4	6.8	6.7	7.3	7.8	9.1	8.4	8.4	7.0	6.0	6.8
Elmore	21,000	21,508	21,530	21,690	21,460	21,450	21,710	21,830	21,760	21,430	21,590	21,860	21,540	21,800	21,710
	5.9	5.8	6.2	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.5	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.3	5.9	5.3	5.6	6.3
Escambia	16,782	16,373	16,800	16,290	16,370	16,230	16,450	16,730	16,530	16,380	16,200	16,350	16,100	16,100	16,520
	10.4	9.7	10.3	9.5	9.9	8.8	8.6	10.2	11.0	11.8	10.4	9.6	9.5	8.8	9.9
Etowah	43,120	42,183	42,220	42,670	42,470	42,540	42,540	42,850	42,710	42,330	42,080	42,800	42,030	42,490	43,100
	9.2	8.4	9.0	8.0	7.9	8.4	8.1	9.8	10.2	11.4	10.1	10.2	7.9	7.8	9.5
Fayette	7,636	7,478	7,370	7,410	7,350	7,530	7,540	7,680	7,570	7,620	7,670	7,650	7,630	7,680	7,780
	10.6	8.1	8.3	7.7	7.1	7.3	7.0	7.8	8.0	10.2	10.2	7.9	8.1	7.5	8.1
Franklin	15,130	14,549	14,590	14,770	14,810	14,390	14,660	14,760	14,690	14,670	14,510	14,770	14,510	14,800	15,230
	10.1	10.8	9.9	10.1	10.5	8.8	14.2	13.5	11.8	13.2	12.3	11.4	10.6	9.4	10.3
Geneva	10,443	10,563	10,670	10,570	10,390	10,580	11,000	10,960	10,800	10,740	10,640	10,740	10,690	10,670	10,980
	6.2	5.5	5.5	5.9	5.2	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.9	6.3	5.6	5.3	5.0	4.1	5.3
Greene	3,743	3,646	3,680	3,690	3,660	3,590	3,630	3,780	3,650	3,750	3,650	3,660	3,610	3,590	3,830
	15.3	11.8	12.5	11.6	12.5	9.3	9.2	10.1	11.0	14.5	11.9	11.5	10.7	9.3	13.0
Hale	6,105	6,067	6,160	6,150	6,040	6,010	6,120	6,380	6,240	6,280	6,150	6,250	6,130	6,200	6,340
	8.2	7.8	8.2	8.0	7.9	7.0	6.5	7.7	8.4	10.8	8.3	8.0	7.0	7.1	8.7
Henry	6,766	6,960	6,990	6,900	6,950	7,000	7,110	7,370	7,120	7,070	6,890	6,890	6,720	6,690	6,740
	6.6	6.2	7.6	7.1	7.7	6.1	5.2	5.7	5.6	7.7	6.9	6.5	6.0	5.4	6.6
Houston	40,014	40,337	40,630	41,140	40,440	40,300	40,540	40,730	40,920	40,630	40,350	40,930	40,810	41,300	41,740
	5.8	5.5	6.0	7.0	5.9	5.5	5.1	5.3	5.3	6.5	5.6	5.5	4.7	4.5	5.7
Jackson	20,929	20,804	21,450	20,800	20,620	20,520	20,430	20,580	20,790	21,150	20,620	20,680	20,610	20,710	21,170
	9.4	12.0	13.0	13.8	13.8	12.7	12.8	13.3	14.7	17.2	15.0	13.5	12.4	10.2	12.1
Jefferson	338,868	331,653	331,430	333,350	336,810	333,320	335,940	333,140	335,760	330,350	330,160	334,580	332,120	336,640	339,940
	6.6	5.8	6.3	6.1	6.5	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.7	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.1	5.9
Lamar	8,675	8,518	8,530	8,590	8,350	8,510	8,540	8,810	8,590	8,540	8,460	8,690	8,600	8,590	8,720
	6.9	6.2	6.6	8.9	5.7	6.6	6.1	6.0	5.9	7.1	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.4	7.6
Lauderdale	36,490	36,645	36,630	36,970	37,000	36,540	36,830	36,820	37,330	36,530	36,630	36,980	36,610	37,090	37,310
	8.2	7.5	7.4	7.6	8.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	8.6	9.4	9.0	8.5	7.3	7.1	7.9
Lawrence	11,918	12,687	12,770	12,740	13,070	12,530	12,590	12,640	13,000	13,130	12,880	12,860	12,650	12,890	13,470
	12.7	10.5	9.9	10.1	13.3	9.2	9.1	9.3	12.2	14.1	12.9	12.4	9.8	9.6	13.7

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988							1989					
	1987	1988	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb	Mar	Apr.	* May	June
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT															
Lee	38,259 5.4	38,786 5.1	38,550 5.7	38,800 6.2	38,990 5.5	39,150 5.0	39,750 4.9	39,700 5.0	39,500 5.0	39,030 5.0	39,180 4.4	39,750 4.4	39,440 3.7	40,170 4.0	39,860 5.3
Limestone	30,096 6.5	30,997 6.1	31,370 6.3	31,610 6.4	30,560 7.6	31,510 5.0	32,040 5.1	32,210 6.0	31,450 6.5	31,100 7.8	30,750 6.9	30,590 6.4	30,420 5.5	30,670 5.0	30,630 7.1
Lowndes	4,688 19.3	5,347 14.3	5,680 14.4	5,730 13.8	5,780 14.3	5,790 11.7	5,860 11.1	6,050 11.2	5,960 11.7	5,960 13.7	6,230 12.6	6,390 11.7	6,450 10.7	6,530 10.4	6,770 13.6
Macon	10,563 6.7	10,389 7.6	10,380 9.2	10,530 8.3	10,430 8.3	10,320 7.2	10,380 7.2	10,400 7.6	10,280 7.8	10,270 9.4	10,180 8.1	10,190 7.0	10,010 6.3	10,130 6.4	9,980 7.6
Madison	130,399 5.2	132,750 5.1	133,430 5.8	134,170 5.6	134,090 5.5	134,170 5.0	135,130 4.7	134,880 5.1	136,170 5.3	133,930 5.7	133,930 5.3	135,050 5.0	134,840 4.5	137,550 4.2	139,230 5.4
Marengo	9,838 8.4	9,588 7.2	9,730 7.3	9,760 7.4	9,600 7.1	9,510 6.6	9,610 6.2	9,760 6.6	9,740 8.1	9,420 8.5	9,370 7.6	9,460 7.2	9,380 6.7	9,490 6.5	9,770 8.0
Marion	15,548 10.7	15,624 8.5	15,910 6.7	15,920 7.7	15,770 6.5	15,550 7.1	15,610 7.6	15,650 8.5	15,320 9.2	15,680 12.9	15,200 9.3	15,280 8.6	15,220 9.2	15,400 9.0	15,680 11.5
Marshall	37,288 7.9	38,209 7.8	38,420 7.3	38,530 6.8	38,400 7.0	38,220 6.1	38,500 6.4	39,540 10.0	38,930 8.4	38,890 9.4	38,600 8.4	38,620 8.0	38,430 6.4	39,130 5.8	39,600 7.2
Mobile	172,319 9.7	169,208 9.2	169,070 9.8	171,350 8.8	170,640 9.3	167,700 8.9	169,030 8.8	171,310 9.5	172,480 10.4	170,570 10.9	170,930 10.5	172,520 9.7	170,030 9.1	170,740 8.3	172,510 9.5
Monroe	9,708 11.7	9,641 9.8	9,670 10.6	9,760 10.3	9,680 9.3	9,510 7.8	9,810 9.6	9,950 10.4	9,790 10.6	9,840 12.1	9,780 12.0	9,970 12.2	9,730 10.8	9,810 9.9	9,850 10.7
Montgomery	100,183 6.5	99,398 6.3	99,920 7.1	100,940 6.7	99,670 6.7	98,910 6.0	100,060 5.7	100,460 6.2	100,250 6.2	99,320 6.9	99,120 6.2	100,700 6.1	99,410 5.8	100,580 6.0	100,560 7.0
Morgan	46,674 8.5	46,803 7.6	47,610 7.9	47,180 7.4	47,670 9.4	46,610 7.0	46,690 6.6	47,060 7.2	47,720 8.8	46,970 8.5	46,400 7.9	47,120 9.0	46,520 6.5	47,290 6.2	48,670 9.0
Perry	5,363 11.8	5,608 10.1	5,660 9.7	5,710 9.2	5,660 9.4	5,610 7.8	5,730 7.2	6,050 10.2	5,960 17.8	5,860 16.9	5,780 11.1	5,810 9.4	5,700 7.4	5,780 7.8	5,800 9.1
Pickens	7,268 11.2	7,168 10.2	7,200 11.5	7,240 11.3	7,110 10.1	7,140 8.3	7,250 8.2	7,360 8.0	7,330 9.6	7,330 11.9	7,190 10.8	7,270 10.0	7,150 10.0	7,210 8.9	7,320 11.7
Pike	12,545 7.0	12,639 6.2	12,530 6.8	12,350 6.9	12,210 7.3	12,880 6.7	13,080 5.6	13,160 5.7	12,580 7.0	12,990 6.8	12,900 5.9	13,140 6.1	12,970 5.3	13,170 5.3	12,980 6.6
Randolph	9,586 6.4	9,341 6.7	9,130 7.5	9,270 9.1	9,290 9.5	9,200 7.6	9,600 6.4	9,580 5.3	9,610 6.4	9,530 7.2	9,370 6.3	9,520 6.5	9,320 5.8	9,330 5.9	9,400 7.5
Russell	22,475 7.1	23,306 6.3	23,250 6.2	23,420 6.3	23,330 5.4	23,240 5.5	24,090 8.1	23,270 6.4	23,520 6.3	22,850 6.2	22,960 5.8	23,080 5.1	22,980 4.6	23,340 4.6	23,540 5.5
St. Clair	21,388 6.0	21,522 6.0	21,470 6.3	21,730 6.7	21,710 6.0	21,550 5.6	21,750 5.5	21,670 6.0	21,940 6.6	21,730 7.6	21,640 6.8	22,110 7.3	21,740 6.2	21,820 5.2	22,050 6.0
Shelby	40,103 5.0	40,287 4.6	40,330 5.2	40,690 5.3	40,710 4.7	40,410 4.3	40,690 4.0	40,640 4.8	40,970 4.9	40,530 5.9	40,330 4.9	40,840 4.6	40,390 4.1	40,960 3.9	41,490 5.0
Sumter	5,919 12.6	5,585 10.0	5,560 12.6	5,620 11.9	5,600 11.5	5,690 8.8	5,730 7.1	5,830 7.7	5,690 9.4	5,750 10.8	5,640 7.7	5,750 8.1	5,650 7.6	5,700 7.2	6,090 11.8
Talladega	32,228 9.6	31,840 10.0	32,140 10.8	32,310 11.4	32,260 10.9	31,980 9.6	32,140 9.6	32,110 10.3	32,500 10.6	31,920 12.3	31,810 11.3	32,090 10.5	31,880 9.7	32,020 9.1	32,290 11.1
Tallapoosa	18,992 6.5	18,483 6.3	18,640 7.2	18,720 6.9	18,590 6.5	18,340 5.6	18,700 6.1	18,670 6.0	18,570 5.8	18,440 7.2	18,290 5.7	18,520 5.7	18,510 5.8	18,720 5.0	18,940 6.4
Tuscaloosa	69,623 6.1	70,020 5.4	68,130 6.1	68,980 5.7	69,840 5.8	70,530 5.4	71,660 5.0	71,540 5.0	71,870 5.5	70,880 6.0	70,920 5.4	72,000 5.4	71,680 5.0	72,400 5.3	71,250 5.7
Walker	28,983 11.0	28,521 9.1	28,210 8.7	28,280 8.1	28,620 8.7	28,800 9.5	28,990 9.2	28,910 9.7	29,290 10.3	29,190 11.9	29,070 11.1	29,250 10.3	29,590 11.8	29,070 8.8	29,020 8.5
Washington	5,719 13.4	6,583 11.0	6,660 11.1	6,640 12.1	6,610 12.5	6,660 12.3	6,740 11.6	6,900 12.0	6,950 14.1	7,000 14.2	6,950 13.4	6,990 13.2	6,750 10.3	6,800 9.0	6,870 10.5
Wilcox	4,407 12.6	4,243 12.1	4,300 11.4	4,240 12.4	4,190 13.0	4,210 12.3	4,200 10.5	4,480 12.0	4,350 15.3	4,200 16.7	4,260 17.7	4,270 16.0	4,090 12.6	4,210 12.3	4,360 15.8
Winston	9,883 13.9	10,401 10.8	10,710 9.5	10,690 10.0	10,620 8.6	10,400 8.0	10,610 11.2	10,710 10.6	10,510 11.9	10,600 14.1	10,460 14.9	10,370 10.8	10,350 8.6	10,490 7.8	10,550 9.4
TRADE															
Foreign															
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[5] *(1,000 tons)*	29,363	32,684	2,473	3,030	2,661	2,701	3,970	2,668	2,646	3,123	2,788	3,067	2,736	3,752	2,633
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, nonindustrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	28,038	28,507	2,583	3,047	3,123	2,582	1,966	1,820	2,263	2,338	2,120	2,193	1,938	2,128	
Gasoline sales[6] (1,000 gallons)	2,084,218	2,072,236	181,419	173,666	175,002	179,095	155,015	190,201	186,652	161,069	158,657	162,351	199,546	186,328	
New passenger car registrations[7] *(number)*	140,070	133,614	11,654	11,208	11,045	11,502	10,571	10,060	11,594	9,256	8,572	9,762	10,212	8,082	7,282
Taxable retail sales by kind of business, state totals[8] *($1,000,000)*															
Food	4,093	4,122	361	363	347	344	344	338	372	342	331	352	350	346	356
General merchandise	2,862	3,047	247	237	247	236	253	294	413	198	197	254	257	256	238
Apparel	853	933	70	67	81	75	79	90	141	53	53	88	69	69	67
Furniture, furnishings, etc	977	1,029	87	84	85	87	81	91	127	75	70	81	78	81	77
Automotive	4,018	4,231	399	370	387	344	321	301	331	304	305	385	357	386	376
Gasoline service stations	286	295	26	26	27	24	24	23	26	25	22	26	25	26	27
Lumber and building materials	1,677	1,713	164	149	156	148	152	134	135	117	104	137	147	154	136
Hardware and farm implements	228	236	22	19	20	20	20	18	23	18	15	20	20	21	21
Eating places	1,791	1,911	167	170	166	159	163	156	174	150	146	172	168	170	172
Drug stores	391	418	34	32	33	33	32	32	48	39	34	35	36	33	29
All other retail	1,533	1,640	125	119	128	128	132	148	233	130	125	138	124	131	119
Total sales by retail concerns	18,709	19,576	1,702	1,637	1,676	1,599	1,602	1,626	2,022	1,451	1,402	1,688	1,632	1,673	1,619
Nonretail & unclassified concerns	3,160	3,414	307	280	311	308	288	281	306	279	275	296	282	306	285
Total all sales at retail	21,868	22,990	2,009	1,918	1,988	1,907	1,891	1,907	2,328	1,730	1,677	1,984	1,914	1,979	1,904

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988							1989					
	1987	1988	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
TRADE CONTINUED															
Taxable retail sales: Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[8] *($1,000)*															
MSAs															
Anniston	602,268	625,245	54,305	52,346	55,247	53,145	51,182	52,079	60,748	45,241	43,171	51,827	49,452	52,073	49,650
Birmingham	5,797,096	5,901,637	528,354	493,471	513,178	496,774	475,786	455,497	568,283	453,385	434,121	499,363	480,867	494,015	484,982
Decatur	649,766	685,628	59,670	57,702	60,483	56,211	57,896	56,789	68,571	50,116	46,023	56,519	56,014	58,220	54,985
Dothan	696,013	709,983	61,178	62,350	60,778	57,919	57,303	58,830	70,365	59,208	58,971	69,776	65,011	66,294	67,609
Florence	718,517	766,071	65,005	62,499	67,305	62,740	64,063	65,309	82,546	62,264	58,335	74,008	70,943	74,596	69,300
Gadsden	524,919	557,106	50,060	47,003	48,916	44,571	43,817	44,743	57,463	39,180	37,085	47,793	45,179	47,210	46,616
Huntsville	1,302,226	1,350,807	119,071	112,833	115,385	108,742	108,512	110,032	131,495	117,132	110,185	133,423	125,953	131,869	125,158
Mobile	2,312,321	2,354,428	206,814	204,634	203,560	191,359	190,947	183,049	227,127	201,378	189,747	221,858	215,967	219,034	217,356
Montgomery	1,719,824	1,778,085	156,956	146,828	154,595	148,198	140,561	144,444	180,606	153,391	143,291	175,098	164,228	169,134	153,170
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,829	66,888	62,421	67,839	64,037	62,313	63,321	76,567	60,854	59,646	63,243	62,825	66,635	67,474
Counties															
Autauga	122,285	128,819	11,482	11,675	11,955	10,677	10,529	9,853	11,714	13,173	12,248	14,053	14,542	14,386	14,786
Baldwin	374,180	389,715	38,022	40,063	36,657	31,204	30,927	27,601	32,982	35,303	33,920	43,379	43,474	44,328	46,660
Barbour	84,828	85,954	7,928	7,830	7,242	7,152	7,029	6,843	8,442	6,729	6,555	7,782	7,843	7,614	7,559
Bibb	51,658	51,762	4,688	4,448	4,638	4,367	4,361	4,647	4,431	3,436	3,306	3,714	3,863	3,803	3,941
Blount	110,515	114,895	9,907	9,785	9,988	9,633	9,663	10,085	10,506	8,460	8,258	10,051	9,807	10,376	9,483
Bullock	25,271	23,568	1,853	1,853	1,703	1,829	1,855	1,939	2,501	1,783	1,682	2,083	1,792	1,750	1,742
Butler	62,697	61,508	5,408	5,052	5,337	5,088	4,940	4,667	5,722	4,748	4,319	5,147	5,024	5,030	4,616
Calhoun	602,268	625,245	54,305	52,346	55,247	53,145	51,182	52,079	60,748	45,241	43,171	51,827	49,452	52,073	49,650
Chambers	125,636	124,488	11,126	10,323	10,831	10,029	10,104	10,147	10,415	9,831	9,879	11,431	11,287	11,346	11,069
Cherokee	51,230	54,538	5,192	4,320	4,613	4,356	4,400	4,552	4,641	4,965	4,897	5,930	5,995	5,928	5,931
Chilton	122,615	133,233	12,339	11,371	11,798	10,263	10,743	11,112	11,810	8,977	8,842	10,673	11,009	11,186	10,362
Choctaw	38,404	36,958	3,147	3,241	2,934	2,971	2,973	3,034	3,580	2,741	2,770	3,157	3,009	3,013	3,111
Clarke	104,604	105,709	9,609	9,526	9,279	8,952	8,513	8,297	9,759	7,979	7,579	8,693	8,923	8,975	8,728
Clay	31,968	32,920	2,845	2,939	3,061	2,596	2,835	2,603	3,032	2,834	2,769	2,921	2,700	2,980	2,977
Cleburne	26,929	28,737	2,569	2,452	2,850	2,463	2,439	2,271	2,639	2,619	2,200	2,713	2,354	2,999	2,210
Coffee	211,223	206,918	17,275	17,118	17,951	17,874	16,632	17,344	18,070	14,141	15,794	17,175	15,865	18,718	16,746
Colbert	293,782	315,482	27,271	25,638	29,082	26,075	27,613	26,715	30,586	27,596	25,879	30,962	30,186	31,569	30,176
Conecuh	32,476	29,407	2,334	2,752	2,438	2,480	2,199	2,533	2,694	3,095	2,499	2,924	2,747	2,837	2,477
Coosa	12,707	13,534	1,192	1,121	1,275	1,095	1,049	1,482	1,162	976	1,045	1,297	1,297	1,215	1,108
Covington	142,938	142,048	12,520	12,234	12,516	11,863	11,316	11,468	12,714	12,474	12,659	14,559	14,820	15,419	13,395
Crenshaw	40,376	40,853	3,669	3,495	3,608	3,602	3,461	3,352	3,781	3,502	3,553	4,046	3,406	3,656	3,287
Cullman	269,229	280,340	24,452	24,531	24,835	23,820	23,269	21,720	26,064	22,817	21,568	26,381	26,956	28,587	25,736
Dale	121,169	127,539	11,048	11,203	11,112	10,980	11,040	10,122	11,733	11,261	10,644	12,744	11,770	12,755	12,890
Dallas	219,565	218,342	19,630	19,341	19,241	17,411	17,682	18,142	19,965	15,231	14,775	17,762	17,455	18,572	15,834
DeKalb	212,053	227,183	20,612	19,046	19,784	19,277	19,195	18,391	20,799	15,049	14,937	18,293	18,288	18,393	18,509
Elmore	111,814	116,892	11,039	10,003	9,773	9,802	9,118	8,770	10,391	11,444	11,099	13,442	13,188	13,264	12,292
Escambia	136,495	137,975	12,274	11,615	12,711	11,442	10,843	10,578	13,144	9,313	9,258	10,816	11,483	11,159	10,686
Etowah	524,919	557,106	50,060	47,003	48,916	44,571	43,817	44,743	57,463	39,180	37,085	47,793	45,179	47,210	46,616
Fayette	66,589	65,808	5,895	5,399	5,545	5,357	5,284	5,191	6,907	4,446	4,426	5,443	4,740	5,271	5,101
Franklin	108,599	114,120	10,526	9,205	9,988	9,587	9,515	9,461	10,962	7,874	7,328	9,111	9,197	9,020	8,756
Geneva	131,414	119,882	9,976	9,555	10,029	9,858	9,801	11,414	10,712	4,622	4,459	5,189	5,006	5,064	4,955
Greene	18,730	19,565	1,910	1,695	1,750	1,672	1,532	1,642	1,582	1,804	1,724	2,004	2,069	1,994	1,664
Hale	30,315	29,310	2,589	2,754	2,552	2,510	2,502	2,415	2,573	2,565	2,427	2,781	2,868	3,176	2,733
Henry	41,338	43,731	3,485	3,904	3,722	3,843	3,956	3,958	4,308	3,290	3,556	3,698	3,598	3,484	3,814
Houston	574,844	582,444	50,130	51,147	49,666	46,939	46,263	48,708	58,632	47,947	48,327	57,032	53,241	53,539	54,719
Jackson	166,029	175,779	15,994	14,310	15,092	15,253	15,969	14,546	16,264	12,954	12,410	16,095	15,823	18,452	16,142
Jefferson	4,822,225	4,871,868	438,054	405,132	422,724	411,527	391,141	373,075	476,130	372,542	353,782	404,408	384,915	399,640	387,344
Lamar	37,102	34,236	3,030	2,697	2,963	2,831	2,746	2,847	3,454	2,887	2,783	3,517	3,316	3,390	3,133
Lauderdale	424,735	450,589	37,734	36,861	38,223	36,665	36,450	38,594	51,960	34,668	32,456	43,046	40,757	43,027	39,124
Lawrence	65,221	68,295	5,981	5,924	5,957	5,408	5,777	5,718	6,937	5,270	4,970	6,152	6,055	6,364	5,765
Lee	403,068	422,838	35,253	32,796	34,429	36,258	35,292	38,827	41,809	33,505	31,214	37,333	37,550	35,478	34,772
Limestone	195,876	203,244	17,892	17,196	17,798	16,253	17,330	15,721	19,461	15,891	14,881	18,498	18,244	19,574	18,576
Lowndes	21,658	22,209	1,896	1,975	1,767	2,023	1,597	1,845	2,447	1,649	1,776	2,148	1,911	2,037	2,179
Macon	53,662	49,949	4,437	4,240	4,386	4,179	3,539	3,490	3,920	4,850	4,832	5,635	5,307	5,437	5,247
Madison	1,302,226	1,350,807	119,071	112,833	115,385	108,742	108,512	110,032	131,495	117,132	110,185	133,423	125,953	131,869	125,158
Marengo	81,060	82,478	6,959	6,717	7,148	7,178	7,185	7,203	7,682	6,829	6,929	8,153	7,877	7,992	7,663
Marion	110,875	115,331	10,008	9,545	9,836	9,637	9,471	9,812	10,994	9,107	8,169	10,381	10,489	10,237	10,417
Marshall	427,632	447,073	39,112	38,899	39,371	36,605	36,062	37,232	42,208	32,262	31,370	39,967	39,498	41,381	38,541
Mobile	1,938,141	1,964,713	168,792	164,571	166,903	160,155	160,020	155,448	194,145	166,075	155,827	178,479	172,493	174,706	170,696
Monroe	73,217	78,045	7,067	6,530	6,706	6,453	6,262	6,805	7,596	7,435	7,294	9,284	8,238	8,776	8,175
Montgomery	1,485,725	1,532,374	134,435	125,150	132,867	127,719	120,914	125,821	158,501	128,774	119,944	147,603	136,498	141,484	126,092
Morgan	584,545	617,333	53,689	51,778	54,526	50,803	52,119	51,071	61,634	44,846	41,053	50,367	49,959	51,856	49,220
Perry	23,734	22,616	1,957	1,953	1,859	2,102	1,676	1,738	2,173	1,977	1,945	2,540	2,072	2,102	2,023
Pickens	42,458	41,901	3,893	3,860	3,607	3,164	3,340	3,453	3,924	3,771	3,692	4,450	4,482	4,611	4,460
Pike	115,053	117,664	10,424	10,075	9,925	10,273	9,646	9,346	10,804	11,367	10,401	12,398	11,613	11,171	11,323
Randolph	59,796	61,298	4,967	4,713	4,875	5,172	5,158	4,673	6,585	5,554	5,212	6,496	6,220	6,459	6,178
Russell	131,628	131,571	12,018	10,722	11,540	10,373	10,453	10,544	12,683	11,203	11,379	13,569	13,916	14,499	12,927
St. Clair	151,136	151,323	13,028	13,200	12,947	12,577	11,919	11,647	13,950	10,816	11,448	13,495	13,667	13,383	13,745
Shelby	349,404	372,744	33,636	32,085	32,515	30,549	31,071	29,489	31,309	32,670	32,837	39,105	38,981	38,296	38,927
Sumter	32,578	33,466	3,714	2,611	2,795	2,621	2,988	2,991	3,093	2,937	2,764	3,414	3,078	3,144	3,081
Talladega	299,552	322,796	28,544	28,979	27,155	26,637	25,697	24,757	30,181	26,540	26,369	32,802	29,243	34,723	30,315
Tallapoosa	152,999	156,648	14,823	13,747	13,178	12,597	12,388	12,758	13,812	9,891	9,398	11,677	11,597	12,403	11,720
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,829	66,888	62,421	67,839	64,037	62,313	63,321	76,567	60,854	59,646	63,243	62,825	66,635	67,474
Walker	363,816	390,807	33,729	33,269	35,004	32,488	31,992	31,201	36,388	28,897	27,796	32,304	33,497	32,320	35,483
Washington	22,573	22,105	2,236	2,123	1,656	1,679	1,791	1,648	1,834	1,902	1,853	2,118	2,422	2,134	2,055
Wilcox	23,251	20,469	1,643	1,665	1,692	1,593	1,699	1,712	2,124	2,146	1,986	2,373	2,162	2,114	2,040
Winston	92,401	97,337	8,886	8,513	8,835	7,842	8,268	7,858	8,956	6,735	6,120	6,945	7,778	8,365	7,943
Statewide[8]	1,839,693	2,406,744	190,988	184,567	201,630	200,403	221,361	253,948	330,038	98,131	118,777	135,500	131,002	134,277	131,971

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding.

[1] Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data.

[2] Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data.

[3] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of Dodge\DRI Construction and Real Estate Information Service.

[4] Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year.

[5] Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.

[6] Gross gallons of gasoline as reported by wholesale distributors.

[7] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

[8] Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. ***Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters.*** Retail sales historical data prior to 1984 are not available for the new series. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual countries; it does not represent a state total. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms.

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The **Alabama Economic Outlook** is an annual publication of the Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama. The **Outlook** draws heavily on the national and regional statistical resources of the Center as well as timely forecasts of national and international economic activity provided by The WEFA Group.

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1989 FORECAST

SELECTED INDICATORS

	1989
Gross State Product	
(Millions of 1982 $)	$52,573
Growth Rate	2.2%
Alabama Unemployment Rate	7.4%
Alabama Total Personal Income	
(Millions of Current $)	$50,766
Growth Rate	6.9%
Alabama Per Capita Income	
Income (Current $)	$12,212
Growth Rate	6.0%

1989 ALABAMA ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The following items are available from the Alabama Econometric Model:

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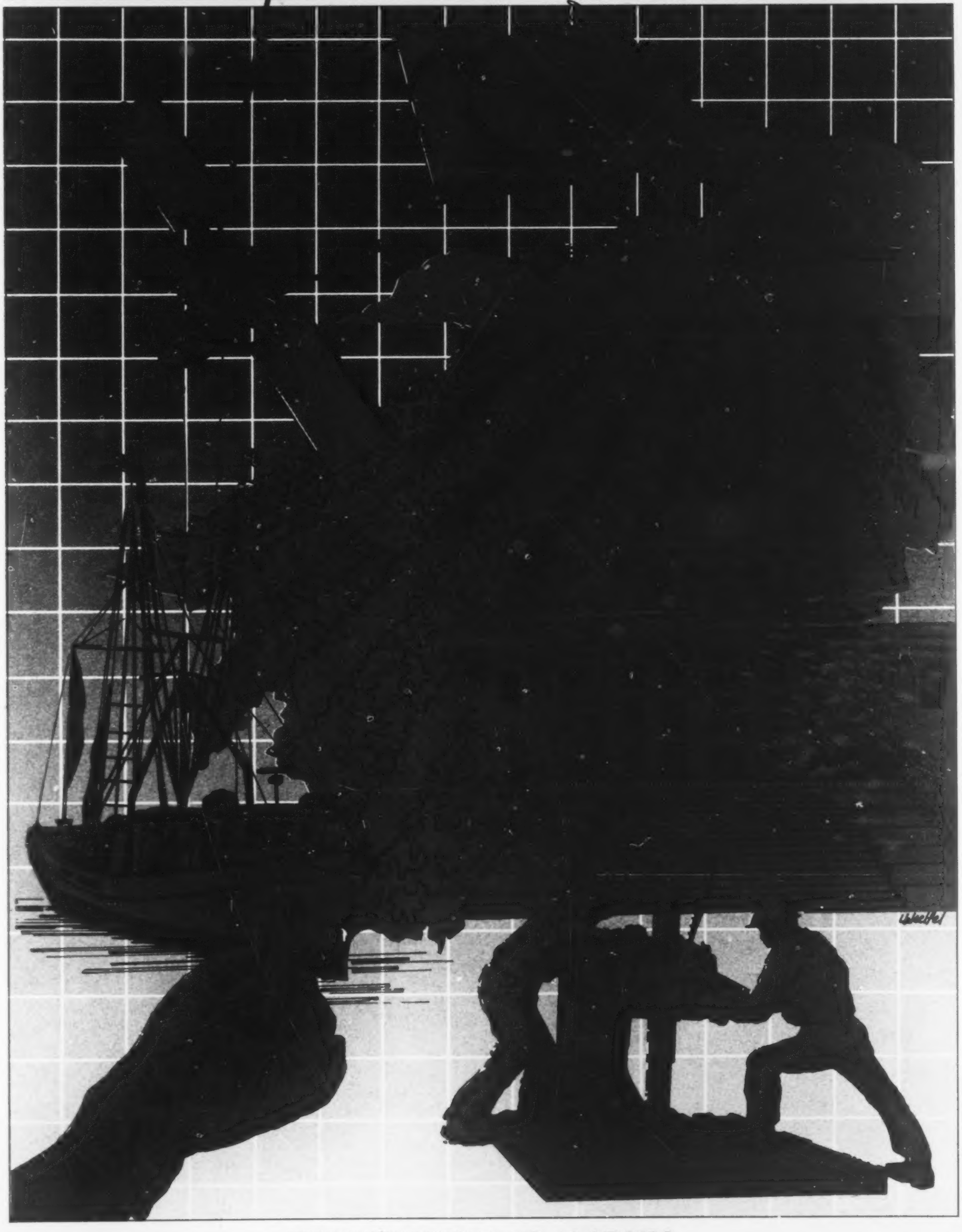

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All correspondence should be addressed to: Beth Gibbs, Editor, ***Alabama Business***, Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone: (205) 348-6191.

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EDUCATION AND STATE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Walter S. Misiolek

Competition among the states for new industries and new jobs has become intense in recent years. Much has been made of the "Sunbelt" phenomenon--the rapid economic growth which the Southwest and parts of the South have enjoyed at the expense of the Northeast and the Great Lakes states. Often the rapid growth in the Sunbelt states has been linked to favorable business climates and low tax burdens which serve to attract new industry.

Both economic theory and common sense argue that the quality of educational services should also have important impacts on a state's path of economic development. Unfortunately, however, educators, economists, and state policymakers have experienced considerable difficulty in determining the precise nature and magnitude of the impacts of education on economic growth.

In a recent article in the *Southern Economic Journal* (October 1987), Nguyen Quan and John Beck suggest that educational services can affect state economic growth in two ways: through the parental migration effect which attracts people from other states, and through the labor productivity effect which attracts new jobs and raises hourly wages. But, increases in the quality of educational services often require increases in tax burdens which may discourage growth, offsetting part of the gains attained through improved education.

Long lags associated with the impacts of educational improvements and interrelationships between educational attainment and demographic factors (which may have independent growth effects) also cloud the picture. Nonetheless, evidence is beginning to emerge which suggests that the low level of support for elementary and secondary schools in the middle South has restricted economic growth in the region and prevented the mid-South states, including Alabama, from participating fully in the Sunbelt phenomenon.

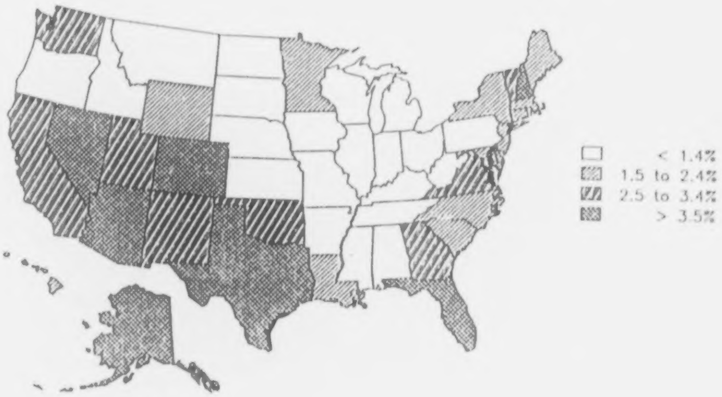
Education in the South

Since the late 1950s, eight southern states have consistently ranked among the bottom twelve states in per pupil expenditures for public elementary and secondary schools. These eight states are Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee--all of the Southeastern states except for Florida and Louisiana. Only one other state, Idaho, shares this ignominious distinction.

Table 1 lists per pupil expenditures for public elementary and secondary schools for the 1985-86 school year, together with per capita property tax data for the 50 states. From these data it is apparent that a strong relationship exists between property tax collections and support for public schools. The eight southeastern states which are listed above rank 40 through 50 in public school support, and 35 through 50 in property taxes per capita.

Although current educational attainment data are not available at the state level, Table 2 demonstrates that a clear pattern exists in the regional data. High school completion rates for 1987 were lower in the South than the U.S. average for each of the three demographic groups surveyed--whites, blacks, and Hispanics. The percent of the adult population completing four years of college was also lower in the South both for whites and for blacks.

Figure 1
EMPLOYMENT GROWTH RATES (1977 to 1985)



While a relationship between educational support and educational performance is clearly discernible at the regional level, it is not as easy to assess the effects of education on state economic growth. High correlations between education measures and other growth determinants, long lags, and the effects of education reform movements of the early 1970s and mid-1980s present serious problems for the analysis.

It is not surprising that published studies have reported mixed and sometimes curious results. For example, Quan and Beck (referenced above) find that public education expenditures appear to have positively affected economic growth in the Northeast but not in the Sunbelt. Plaut and Pluta (*Southern Economic Journal*, July 1983) find that total education expenditures have significantly influenced state growth but that high property taxes, highly correlated with education spending, also appear to have stimulated growth. Wasylenko and McGuire (*National Tax Journal*, December 1985) find that education spending has increased overall employment growth but has had measurable growth effects on only two of six economic sectors: retail trade and finance.

State Economic Growth

A number of alternatives may be used to measure state economic performance. These include the rate of employment growth, total income growth, per capita income growth, and growth in real value added. We will focus here on employment growth. Other growth measures are interrelated but show somewhat differing patterns across the states.

Table 3 presents data on overall employment growth for each state and for several of the main economic sectors of each state for the 1977-1985 time period. Alabama's performance was below the national average for each economic sector and for total employment growth. Figure 1 illustrates the distinct regional pattern in total employment growth across the United States for the 1977-1985 period.

Table 1
State Education Expenditures 1986-87

	Expenditure per Pupil in Public Schools		State and Local Property Taxes Per Capita	
	$	**Rank**	**$**	**Rank**
AL	2,565	46	118	50
AK	8,253	1	1,084	2
AZ	3,093	39	422	26
AR	2,658	44	182	48
CA	3,543	24	451	23
CO	3,975	16	521	19
CT	4,743	5	731	6
DE	4,610	7	223	43
FL	3,529	26	411	27
GA	2,966	43	329	35
HI	3,807	20	314	36
ID	2,484	48	299	37
IL	3,781	21	539	16
IN	3,275	34	393	30
IA	3,619	23	544	15
KS	3,829	19	533	17
KY	2,486	47	195	46
LA	3,187	37	189	47
ME	3,472	31	478	21
MD	4,450	9	438	25
MA	4,562	8	601	11
MI	4,176	11	650	9
MN	3,941	17	529	18
MS	2,362	50	221	44
MO	3,189	36	243	40
MT	4,091	14	650	8
NE	3,634	22	579	13
NV	3,440	32	340	34
NH	3,542	25	738	5
NJ	5,395	3	757	3
NM	3,195	35	143	49
NY	6,011	2	748	4
NC	2,982	42	265	38
ND	3,481	30	364	33
OH	3,527	28	394	29
OK	3,146	38	234	42
OR	4,141	13	651	7
PA	4,416	10	388	31
RI	4,667	6	624	10
SC	3,058	40	260	39
SD	3,051	41	477	22
TN	2,612	45	235	41
TX	3,298	33	517	20
UT	2,390	49	366	32
VT	4,031	15	556	14
VA	3,520	29	396	28
WA	3,881	18	441	24
WV	3,528	27	203	45
WI	4,168	12	600	12
WY	5,114	4	1,173	1
US Average	3,752		463	

Sources: *Digest of Education Statistics, 1987* (Center for Education Statistics) and *Government Finances in 1986-87* (Bureau of the Census).

The states experiencing the highest rates of employment growth are found predominantly along the east coast and in the Southwest. It may come as a surprise to some that the Sunbelt phenomenon did not affect employment in the Northeast as adversely as is generally presumed, and that the mid-South states of Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee failed to enjoy the same growth as other Sunbelt states.

Of the eight low education support states in the South, only three performed at or above the national average in total employment growth and only Georgia succeeded in reaching the second highest growth tier.

In a recent study, supported through the University's Center for Economic and Business Research, Dr. Carl Ferguson and I used a statistical technique called stepwise regression analysis to identify principal determinants of differences in economic growth rates across the 48 contiguous states for the 1977-1985 period.

From a group of over 30 variables representing labor productivity and education measures, labor and non-labor costs of production, demographic and social variables, tax burdens and tax progressivity, we found that three variables clearly dominated all others in explaining variations in employment growth. These three variables were college graduation rates, labor unionization rates, and the percentage of the total population living in urban areas.

We found that the percent of the population completing four years of college and the percent living in urban areas were strongly positively related to employment growth for all state economic sectors. Labor union membership expressed as a percent of nonagricultural employment was found to be negatively related to employment growth for all except the construction and services sectors.

Two other variables which appeared regularly among the top group of explanatory variables in our study were the average hourly wage and the absence of a personal income tax. We found that low wages and the absence of state income taxes appeared to stimulate employment growth during the time period studied.

There were some surprises in terms of the variables which seldom if ever appeared among the top group of explanatory variables. Demographic variables (age and race), non-labor production costs (gas and electricity prices), and state tax progressivity measures were generally found to be nonsignificant.

Subsequent analysis, however, has revealed important interrelationships between college graduation rates, high school graduation rates, state education expenditures, and demographic variables which may in part explain the nonsignificance of these other variables.

When the college graduation variable is omitted from the estimating equations, its role is taken by various combinations of elementary and secondary school measures and state demographic measures. Also, when college graduation rates are independently analyzed, they are found to be highly dependent upon state elementary

Table 2
Educational Attainment 1987

	Percent of Population Twenty-Five Years Old and Over Completing:	
	Four Years High School	Four Years College
U.S.		
All Races	75.6	19.9
White	77.0	20.5
Black	63.4	10.7
Hispanic	50.9	8.6
Northeast		
All Races	76.5	22.2
White	77.6	22.6
Black	65.1	11.7
Hispanic	52.7	9.5
Midwest		
All Races	77.4	17.6
White	78.4	17.9
Black	65.7	10.0
Hispanic	56.1	12.0
West		
All Races	80.6	22.8
White	80.8	22.8
Black	80.0	14.1
Hispanic	49.9	6.2
South		
All Races	70.8	18.3
White	73.1	19.7
Black	59.4	10.1
Hispanic	50.1	10.4

Source: *Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1987 and 1986* (Bureau of the Census).

Table 3
Employment Growth Rates
(1977-85)

State	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and Utilities	Retail Trade	Wholesale Trade	Finance	Services	Total Employment
AL	-2.4	-0.5	0.8	0.3	1.8	2.0	1.8	0.9
AK	5.5	0.3	2.4	6.5	7.1	5.2	5.1	4.8
AZ	6.0	4.8	3.3	5.0	4.9	6.3	6.5	4.8
AR	-2.6	-0.5	1.7	0.6	2.0	2.8	2.3	1.0
CA	1.4	1.5	1.7	3.0	2.9	3.9	4.4	3.0
CO	3.7	2.3	3.8	3.2	3.4	5.3	4.9	3.8
CT	4.6	-0.4	1.9	2.6	2.8	4.5	3.8	2.1
DE	2.1	0.3	-0.6	1.4	2.3	6.4	4.0	1.8
FL	6.6	3.1	3.5	4.6	5.1	5.3	6.1	4.7
GA	4.5	0.9	3.3	3.9	4.3	3.9	3.8	2.9
HI	-4.1	-1.4	1.7	1.4	2.5	2.9	3.2	2.0
ID	-4.7	-0.9	0.4	-0.4	0.8	1.7	2.1	0.8
IL	-2.1	-4.0	-0.7	0.7	0.5	2.3	2.7	0.1
IN	-3.0	-2.9	-0.2	0.1	0.6	1.0	2.5	0.1
IA	-7.3	-3.1	-1.6	0.0	-0.4	2.0	1.0	-0.1
KS	-2.1	-1.0	0.5	1.5	1.4	2.6	2.4	1.4
KY	-3.6	-2.2	-0.5	0.6	1.9	2.3	2.2	0.7
LA	-1.3	-2.2	0.9	-0.0	2.5	3.0	2.7	1.7
ME	0.9	-0.3	0.9	1.4	3.0	3.3	2.9	1.8
MD	2.1	-1.6	1.1	3.4	2.4	3.0	4.6	2.0
MA	4.4	0.3	0.8	2.9	2.7	3.7	4.1	2.3
MI	-5.8	-3.3	-1.6	0.6	0.2	0.8	2.1	-0.4
MN	-2.0	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.5	3.3	3.3	1.6
MS	-2.7	-1.2	0.3	0.1	2.1	1.8	0.4	0.2
MO	0.2	-1.2	0.0	-0.1	1.3	2.2	2.9	1.3
MT	-4.1	-2.7	-0.4	0.5	1.1	1.8	1.7	0.8
NE	-4.1	-0.8	0.1	0.3	0.5	2.1	2.7	0.8
NV	-1.0	3.2	3.1	4.6	3.6	5.3	4.5	3.7
NH	6.2	1.7	3.1	4.3	4.6	5.0	4.9	3.8
NJ	3.4	-1.4	2.4	4.1	2.2	3.5	4.8	2.2
NM	1.4	1.4	2.3	2.0	2.9	3.8	4.1	2.6
NY	4.3	-1.9	-0.5	1.0	1.5	2.9	3.2	1.5
NC	2.1	0.4	2.4	2.5	3.7	2.8	3.3	1.9
ND	-4.0	-0.4	2.0	0.4	0.8	2.6	3.2	1.1
OH	-2.9	-3.3	-1.7	0.9	0.6	1.9	2.7	0.0
OK	-1.6	-0.1	0.9	1.7	2.9	3.7	3.1	2.6
OR	-7.2	-1.6	0.1	0.6	0.8	0.9	2.3	0.9
PA	-1.5	-3.4	-1.8	1.3	1.0	2.0	3.0	0.3
RI	0.4	-1.7	0.5	1.3	2.2	2.1	3.5	1.2
SC	2.0	-0.8	2.4	2.4	3.9	4.1	3.0	1.8
SD	-5.6	1.7	-0.9	-0.5	0.3	4.0	1.9	0.6
TN	-1.0	-1.0	1.3	0.8	2.3	2.1	3.2	1.0
TX	2.5	0.7	2.3	2.8	4.4	6.1	4.9	3.5
UT	-0.2	2.3	2.8	2.0	2.3	3.5	4.8	2.7
VT	4.6	0.8	1.3	3.2	3.5	3.7	2.7	2.5
VA	0.7	0.3	2.5	3.0	3.4	2.9	4.3	2.5
WA	-2.0	0.3	1.5	1.5	2.8	2.9	3.7	2.5
WV	-9.5	-5.5	-1.2	-0.5	0.9	1.5	1.9	-0.8
WI	-3.4	-1.7	0.6	1.0	1.1	2.4	2.5	0.8
WY	-2.6	-2.8	1.8	3.8	1.7	4.1	2.9	2.1
US	0.6	-1.0	0.9	1.9	2.3	3.3	3.6	1.8

Source: Special tabulation from data from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

and secondary school support levels and on demographic characteristics of the states.

Table 4
Education and Employment Growth State Rankings 1977

State	Expenditure Per Pupil in Public Schools	Population Completing Four Years High School	Population Completing Four Years College	Property Taxes Per Capita	Employment Growth 1977-85
AL	45	43	45	48	33
AR	48	42	48	46	32
AZ	14	10 (T)	10 (T)	11	1
CA	20	8	5 (T)	3	7
CO	12 (T)	2	1	16	4
CT	17	16	3	5	17
DE	7	20	12	40	21
FL	30	33	23	30	2
GA	37 (T)	39	32	35	8
IA	19	13	29	20	46
ID	43	15	26	31	37
IL	8	30	23	15	44
IN	33	27	42	27	43
KS	21	9	18	19	27
KY	46	47	46	44	39
LA	40	40	40 (T)	47	24
MA	3	14	5 (T)	1	15
MD	6	21	2	23	19
ME	37 (T)	24	25	25	23
MI	10	23	31	12	47
MN	11	12	27	22	25
MO	36	37	35 (T)	34	28
MS	47	48	40 (T)	42	42
MT	12 (T)	10 (T)	21	9	35
NC	41	44	35 (T)	38	20
ND	26 (T)	26	33	29	30
NE	23	7	20	8	36
NH	31	17	14 (T)	7	3
NJ	2	28	16 (T)	2	16
NM	25	31	14 (T)	43	11
NV	22	5	28	21	5
NY	1	29	9	4	26
OH	32	25	40 (T)	26	45
OK	39	32	37	39	10
OR	5	6	13	10	34
PA	9	34	34	32	41
RI	16	38	16 (T)	14	29
SC	42	41	44	41	22
SD	35	22	41	17	40
TN	44	45	43	37	31
TX	29	35	23	28	6
UT	26 (T)	1	4	36	9
VA	24	36	7	33	14
VT	28	19	10 (T)	13	13
WA	18	3	8	24	12
WI	15	18	30	18	38
WV	34	46	47	45	48
WY	4	4	19	6	18

(T) indicates a tie.

Source: Special tabulation, Walter S. Misiolek, The University of Alabama

Table 4 reports the 48 state rankings for several key education variables for the 1976-77 academic year, which begins the period analyzed in our study. Quite clearly, there is a high degree of correlation between per pupil public school expenditures and educational attainment measures, and between education measures and property taxes. Five southern states, Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee, ranked 44-48 in per pupil public school expenditure, 42-48 in high school attainment, 40-48 in college attainment, 37-48 in property taxes, and 31-42 in employment growth over the 1977-85 period.

Summary and Conclusions

It is always dangerous to draw conclusions from limited information, particularly when those conclusions have important policy implications. A growing body of evidence, however, appears to confirm the common sense wisdom that education has significant effects on state economic development.

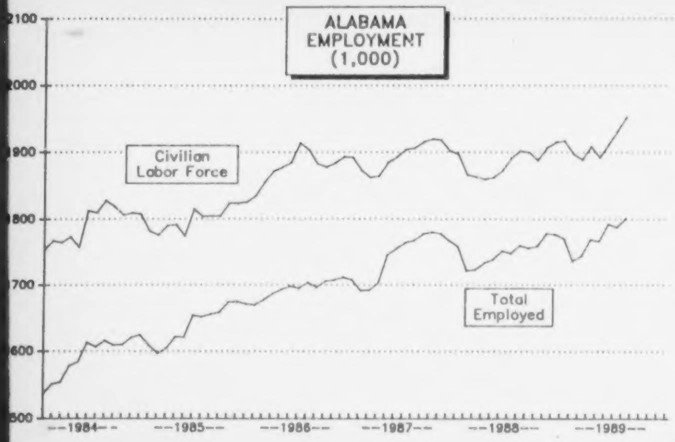
Poor support for public schools in the middle South appears to be highly related to poor high school completion and college completion rates, and seems to have been an important deterrent to economic progress over the recent past.

Several newspaper and news magazine articles have recently observed that the Sunbelt era appears to be drawing to a close. If so, Alabama and its neighbors may have missed an important opportunity. Economic growth, however, is a constantly occurring process and it is never too late to begin laying a foundation for the future.

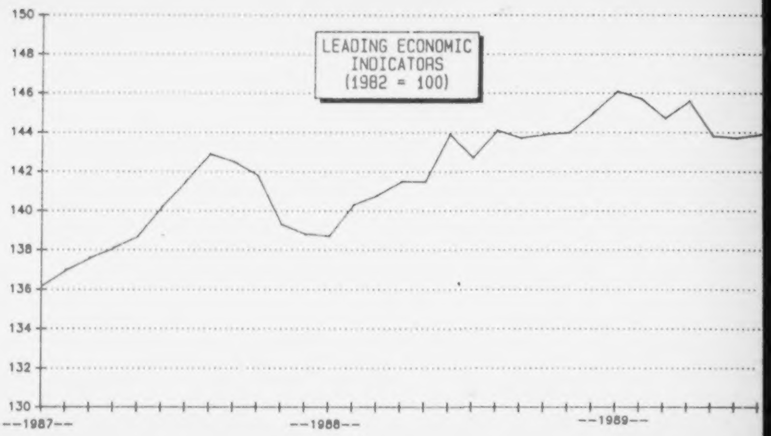
Walter S. Misiolek is an Associate Dean and a Professor of Economics in the College of Commerce and Business Administration at The University of Alabama.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

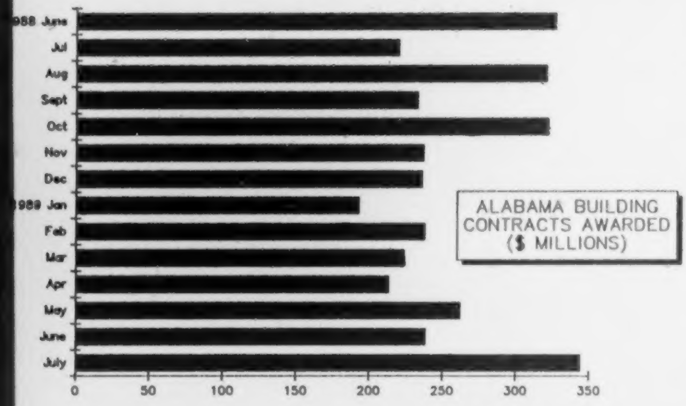
ALABAMA EMPLOYMENT



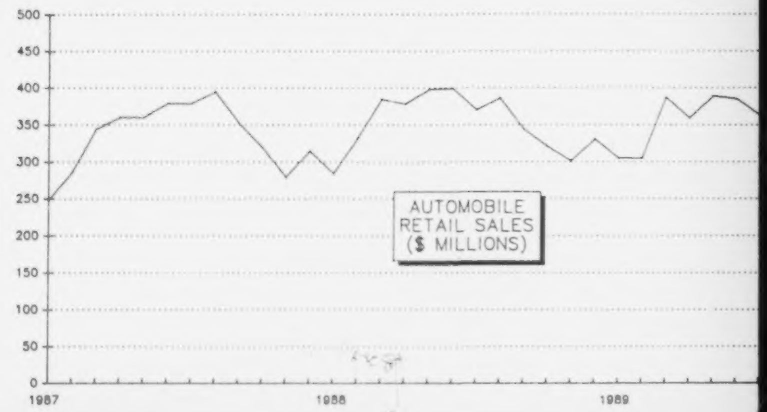
LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS



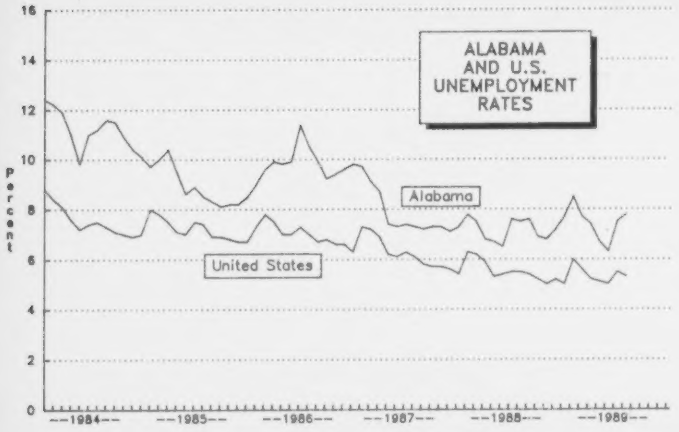
ALABAMA BUILDING CONTRACTS AWARDED



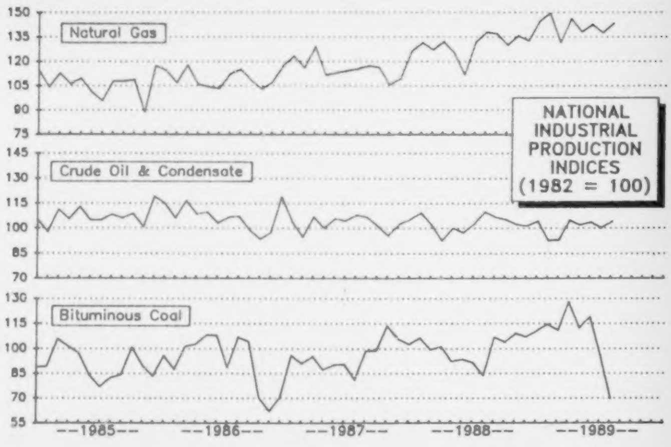
AUTOMOBILE RETAIL SALES



ALABAMA AND U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDICES



GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988						1989						
	1987	1988	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production[1] (1,000 net tons)	24,870	26,055	1,803	2,312	2,242	2,360	2,311	2,393	2,478	2,394	2,765	2,426	2,575	2,077	1,506
Natural gas production *(1,000,000 cu. ft.)*	155,990	176,008	15,402	15,290	14,497	15,160	14,782	16,141	16,717	14,672	16,342	15,407	15,937	15,340	16,020
Cotton consumption *(1,000 lbs.)*	483,311	482,002	30,533	46,253	43,208	41,496	39,776	37,268	41,932	39,300	45,356	41,760	49,634	48,418	38,156
Crude oil and condensate production[2] *(1,000 barrels)*	20,621	20,597	1,835	1,781	1,754	1,706	1,691	1,745	1,547	1,556	1,750	1,700	1,734	1,671	1,737
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	24,675	26,008	2,140	2,336	2,227	2,198	2,210	2,120	2,098	2,155	2,174	2,247	2,319		
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production *(1,000 net tons)*	6,904	6,977	615	579	590	579	531	595	619	551	583	613	574	578	633
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] *($1,000)*	3,114,400	3,515,700	213,400	328,100	233,200	321,700	236,600	236,300	193,000	238,000	224,300	213,700	262,300	238,700	344,300
Residential	1,340,300	1,152,300	99,000	113,800	92,500	87,800	87,500	90,800	69,700	82,300	89,700	97,700	99,200	118,000	112,200
Nonresidential	1,009,700	1,450,300	59,200	92,200	81,500	93,300	93,600	78,400	107,600	57,400	89,300	62,300	112,700	86,100	136,900
Public works and utilities	764,300	913,000	55,200	122,000	59,100	140,700	55,500	67,100	15,600	98,300	45,500	53,600	50,400	34,600	95,100
Cement consumption *(1,000 net tons)*	1,401	1,398	113	129	111	126	115	111	93	76	111	123	126	100	106
TAX COLLECTIONS															
Title of Tax *($1,000)*															
Total	3,052,983	3,184,030	228,259	268,782	274,317	242,778	270,761	255,829	271,830	260,683	333,788	330,038	342,359	283,213	249,133
Franchise	85,027	81,609	682	6,535	5,129	1,189	464	573	757	2,135	55,015	3,217	1,477	5,560	1,254
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	213,006	220,608	19,280	18,392	18,570	19,000	17,717	20,244	19,904	17,293	17,125	17,397	21,422	20,102	19,721
Income	1,249,376	1,296,181	55,974	125,306	112,966	65,791	120,789	106,266	86,088	133,760	138,344	150,169	184,870	128,874	66,919
Motor fuels	56,856	60,244	4,689	5,283	4,199	4,865	7,179	4,967	5,202	5,055	5,909	4,198	6,592	4,607	5,068
Oil/gas privilege	35,150	35,493	2,748	2,702	2,955	2,444	2,688	2,639	3,154	2,436	3,207	2,879	3,462	6,203	3,116
Oil/gas production	9,962	10,432	778	806	866	731	885	856	861	721	948	828	1,046	1,701	905
Sales	810,128	844,582	72,819	69,965	71,299	71,097	72,229	77,565	80,724	62,558	71,945	67,748	82,276	76,227	73,188
2.2% gross receipts	57,351	59,202	14,615	43	7	15,039	108	8	14,762	312	1	14,641	422	30	15,056
TVA electric	47,383	52,522	4,220	4,220	4,220	5,449	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545
Tobacco	72,605	71,847	6,328	5,892	5,984	6,261	5,650	6,477	5,596	5,359	5,499	5,962	6,082	6,225	5,935
Use	88,397	97,843	21,997	1,862	1,460	21,941	1,577	1,302	22,706	1,847	1,315	20,350	2,212	932	22,136
Utility	165,984	171,014	13,463	15,604	14,877	13,604	14,143	14,517	15,968	15,032	14,754	13,333	13,527	13,794	16,700
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index, U.S. *(1982-84 = 100)*															
All items	113.6	118.3	118.5	119.0	119.8	120.2	120.3	120.5	121.1	121.6	122.3	123.1	123.8	124.1	124.4
Percent change	4.3	4.3	.4	.4	.7	.3	.1	.2	.5	.4	.6	.7	.6	.2	.2
Food	113.5	118.2	118.8	119.4	120.2	120.3	120.2	120.7	122.2	122.9	123.5	124.2	124.9	125.0	125.5
Housing	114.2	118.5	119.1	119.5	119.9	119.9	119.9	120.2	120.7	121.1	121.5	121.6	122.1	122.9	123.9
Fuel and utilities	103.0	104.4	106.0	106.1	106.4	105.4	104.3	105.0	106.0	105.9	105.9	106.2	107.0	109.2	109.7
Apparel and upkeep	110.6	115.4	112.7	112.6	117.8	120.7	119.9	118.0	115.3	115.3	119.3	120.9	120.4	117.8	115.0
Transportation	105.4	108.7	108.9	109.6	109.7	110.0	110.7	110.8	111.1	111.6	111.9	114.6	116.0	115.9	115.4
Medical care	130.1	138.6	139.3	139.9	140.4	141.2	141.8	142.3	143.8	145.2	146.1	146.8	147.5	148.5	149.7
Energy	88.6	89.3	91.4	92.3	91.9	89.9	88.9	88.7	89.0	89.3	89.8	94.9	97.4	99.0	98.5
Producer Price Index, U.S. *(1982 = 100)*															
All commodities	102.8	106.9	107.8	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	109.0	110.5	110.8	111.5	112.3	113.1	112.8	112.7
Industrial commodities	102.6	106.3	106.7	107.0	106.8	107.1	107.5	108.1	109.6	110.1	110.6	111.8	112.4	112.3	112.2
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S.															
As measured by															
Consumer prices *(1982-84 = $1.000)*	.880	.846	.844	.840	.835	.832	.831	.830	.826	.822	.818	.812	.808	.806	.804
Wholesale prices *(1982 = $1.000)*	.973	.935	.928	.926	.925	.924	.923	.917	.905	.903	.897	.890	.884	.887	.887
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT[4]															
Civilian labor force *(1,000 workers)*	1,895.0	1,887.0	1,902.1	1,899.6	1,888.0	1,906.7	1,914.9	1,917.2	1,897.6	1,888.8	1,908.9	1,892.1	1,911.8	1,931.7	1,953.1
Unemployment	147.0	136.0	142.5	144.1	129.5	129.1	138.6	147.3	161.7	144.9	140.4	126.1	119.6	144.3	151.9
Unemployment rate	7.8	7.2	7.5	7.6	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.7	8.5	7.7	7.4	6.7	6.3	7.5	7.8
Employment	1,748.0	1,751.0	1,759.6	1,755.5	1,758.5	1,777.6	1,776.3	1,769.9	1,735.9	1,743.9	1,768.5	1,766.0	1,792.2	1,787.4	1,801.2
Nonagricultural	1,507.7	1,549.7	1,560.5	1,546.4	1,551.6	1,554.4	1,579.5	1,567.2	1,549.8	1,556.0	1,559.5	1,566.9	1,578.7	1,575.2	1,571.3
Manufacturing	368.8	379.0	381.0	380.2	380.1	380.8	382.0	380.7	381.0	383.8	382.7	385.3	385.7	387.4	383.0
Durable goods	178.0	184.4	186.0	184.5	185.2	186.9	187.3	187.0	186.9	187.5	187.0	188.6	189.2	189.0	187.0
Lumber and wood products	29.9	30.4	30.9	31.0	30.9	30.8	30.6	30.4	30.3	30.3	30.5	30.7	30.8	31.0	30.5
Stone, clay, glass products	9.7	10.2	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	9.9	10.0
Primary metals	25.5	27.0	26.9	27.1	27.4	27.6	27.7	27.8	27.9	28.1	28.0	28.2	28.2	28.3	27.5
Fabricated metals	22.0	21.5	21.2	21.5	21.3	21.3	21.3	21.2	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.6	21.6	21.5	21.5
Machinery (excl. electrical)	21.6	26.8	27.0	27.2	26.9	27.7	27.8	28.1	27.7	28.0	28.2	28.5	28.5	28.4	28.4
Electrical, electronic equip.	22.5	20.4	20.5	19.9	20.3	20.7	20.9	20.4	20.7	20.8	20.1	20.6	21.1	20.6	21.0
Transportation	28.6	29.5	30.6	28.9	29.4	29.7	29.7	29.9	29.9	29.9	29.7	29.8	30.3	30.6	29.8
Other durable goods	18.2	18.7	18.6	18.7	18.8	18.8	18.9	18.8	18.7	18.8	18.9	19.1	18.6	18.7	18.3
Nondurable goods	190.8	194.6	195.0	195.6	194.9	193.9	194.7	193.7	194.1	196.3	195.7	196.7	196.5	198.4	196.0
Food	31.2	32.2	32.4	32.9	32.6	32.8	32.8	32.6	32.6	33.0	32.7	33.6	33.8	34.4	34.9
Textile mill products	39.0	40.4	40.4	40.2	40.2	40.6	40.7	40.9	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.8	40.4	40.8	40.4
Apparel	55.9	56.2	56.4	56.9	56.3	55.1	55.0	54.2	54.9	56.5	56.0	56.2	56.3	57.0	54.6
Paper and allied products	21.1	21.1	21.3	21.2	21.1	20.8	21.7	21.3	21.1	20.9	21.0	20.9	21.1	21.4	21.5
Printing and publishing	12.7	12.7	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.7	13.0	13.1	13.2	13.2	13.0	13.0	12.9	12.8
Chemicals and allied products	11.2	11.1	10.8	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.4
Rubber products	17.5	18.6	18.8	18.6	18.9	18.7	18.4	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.5	18.4	18.2	18.1	17.9
Other nondurable goods	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Nonmanufacturing	1,138.9	1,170.7	1,179.5	1,166.3	1,171.5	1,173.6	1,197.5	1,186.5	1,168.8	1,172.2	1,176.8	1,181.6	1,193.0	1,187.8	1,188.3
Mining and quarrying	11.3	11.2	11.4	11.1	11.0	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.4	6.3
Bituminous coal mining	8.1	7.7	8.0	7.6	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	2.3
Contract construction	75.1	77.4	81.1	80.2	78.7	78.2	77.0	76.5	71.4	72.1	73.2	74.3	75.2	74.9	75.1
Trans., comm., and utilities	73.3	79.0	80.4	80.2	79.1	78.9	79.2	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.7	79.4	79.5	79.5	79.9
Trade	331.7	339.5	339.0	341.3	341.4	344.0	347.9	355.2	344.7	341.6	341.9	343.2	344.1	345.5	345.3
Wholesale	78.4	79.5	79.3	79.6	80.0	80.4	80.2	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.4	80.7	80.8	81.3	81.5
Retail	253.3	259.9	259.7	261.7	261.4	263.6	267.7	274.9	264.7	261.6	261.5	262.5	263.3	264.2	263.8
Finance, insurance, real estate	70.5	70.2	71.1	70.7	70.6	70.6	70.6	70.8	70.2	70.6	71.1	71.1	71.3	71.6	71.8
Service and miscellaneous	276.5	284.4	286.6	287.4	288.8	282.8	283.3	284.3	282.1	284.0	285.9	287.5	294.8	295.1	297.1
Government	300.6	308.9	309.9	295.4	301.9	307.8	328.1	309.3	309.8	313.3	313.7	314.8	316.8	309.8	312.8
Federal	65.9	65.6	65.5	65.1	64.7	65.0	64.8	64.1	63.8	63.9	63.8	63.9	64.2	65.1	65.2
State and local	234.7	243.4	244.4	230.3	237.2	242.8	263.3	245.2	246.0	249.4	249.9	250.9	252.6	244.7	247.6

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988						1989						
	1987	1988	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT.															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	224,282	240,540	25,181	23,546	22,664	21,985	20,729	16,488	24,750	19,639	23,116	17,324	22,609	25,182	
Nonagricultural placements	96,391	107,113	15,639	13,802	9,591	8,553	8,494	6,711	6,593	7,002	8,377	7,345	9,439	8,911	
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	349,204	348,271	42,444	30,583	21,909	24,517	25,161	28,031	59,343	23,782	24,455	19,828	23,235	25,370	
Payments *($1,000)*	165,953	140,632	11,248	12,315	10,195	9,492	11,406	12,412	16,421	13,471	15,505	11,260	11,636	12,656	
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	16,116	15,782	15,850	15,920	15,970	16,080	16,240	16,090	15,800	15,990	16,050	15,920	16,120	16,130	16,230
	7.0	6.1	5.5	7.1	7.4	6.7	7.8	7.0	6.9	7.6	6.2	6.4	6.7	7.7	7.4
Baldwin	39,863	39,573	40,470	39,440	39,530	39,390	39,790	40,030	39,560	39,220	39,820	39,050	39,370	39,610	40,640
	7.6	8.1	8.6	7.1	8.6	7.4	7.8	8.6	9.0	7.7	7.4	6.4	5.9	6.7	7.7
Barbour	11,648	12,091	12,240	12,220	12,130	12,320	12,430	12,370	12,300	12,140	12,380	12,170	12,150	12,260	12,350
	8.0	7.5	8.3	8.6	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.4	10.1	8.5	7.8	7.1	6.7	8.0	8.1
Bibb	7,278	7,212	7,310	7,430	7,350	7,210	7,280	7,170	7,220	7,000	7,020	6,950	7,050	7,300	7,200
	11.1	10.0	9.0	9.9	8.8	9.5	9.9	13.9	16.3	8.6	7.9	7.7	6.8	8.0	7.7
Blount	17,620	17,172	16,990	17,180	16,980	17,190	17,250	17,410	17,160	17,010	17,220	16,990	17,170	17,390	17,400
	7.3	6.8	5.6	6.0	5.2	5.5	6.6	6.9	7.5	6.2	5.8	5.1	4.6	5.7	5.4
Bullock	3,801	4,405	4,570	4,460	4,380	4,460	4,540	4,410	4,390	4,220	4,220	4,230	4,220	4,420	4,650
	14.4	13.5	16.7	15.7	13.7	13.2	13.3	13.4	14.3	11.6	11.8	11.3	10.2	14.2	15.0
Butler	9,599	9,266	9,680	9,460	9,190	9,230	9,470	9,280	9,140	9,160	9,150	8,970	8,920	9,450	9,420
	10.6	10.4	8.6	11.4	11.0	12.2	13.8	13.3	15.9	15.8	12.8	11.7	11.2	16.3	14.4
Calhoun	51,596	52,094	52,130	52,190	52,050	52,140	52,490	52,810	52,400	51,980	51,430	51,870	52,470	53,020	53,660
	7.8	7.3	8.8	8.8	6.7	6.2	6.7	7.0	8.4	7.3	7.6	7.6	6.1	7.3	8.1
Chambers	17,510	17,075	17,120	17,090	16,940	17,070	17,120	17,110	16,840	16,600	16,730	16,520	16,640	16,820	16,770
	5.9	5.4	6.7	6.0	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.7	6.7	5.7	5.8	5.2	5.9	7.2	7.2
Cherokee	7,970	8,308	8,480	8,340	8,260	8,390	8,610	8,480	8,500	8,320	8,360	8,290	8,230	8,510	8,470
	8.7	7.5	11.1	9.2	7.1	6.6	6.9	7.7	10.4	8.3	7.3	8.0	7.1	10.0	9.3
Chilton	15,588	14,836	14,830	14,710	14,830	14,920	15,200	15,000	15,090	14,890	14,790	14,800	14,900	15,080	15,350
	9.5	7.9	7.6	8.0	7.7	7.3	8.4	9.5	10.1	8.1	7.7	7.3	6.7	8.0	9.5
Choctaw	7,003	7,078	7,240	7,180	6,980	7,030	7,390	7,060	7,130	7,000	6,960	6,910	7,010	7,140	7,250
	10.0	9.5	13.2	9.2	8.6	9.3	10.8	10.5	12.7	11.0	10.1	9.7	8.9	9.8	10.2
Clarke	11,461	11,513	11,480	11,550	11,470	11,330	11,460	11,630	11,510	11,320	11,340	11,070	11,160	11,540	11,500
	11.2	10.6	10.1	10.5	9.6	8.3	8.5	11.2	12.7	11.0	10.3	8.6	7.9	10.7	10.1
Clay	6,146	6,152	6,170	6,180	6,130	6,210	6,240	6,230	6,240	6,270	6,510	6,380	6,500	6,430	6,600
	8.9	7.7	9.3	9.1	7.4	6.7	5.8	6.6	7.3	6.8	14.8	5.7	6.7	8.2	7.9
Cleburne	5,431	5,433	5,360	5,430	5,410	5,710	5,830	5,640	5,610	5,490	5,640	5,740	5,770	5,830	5,870
	7.2	6.5	6.6	6.6	5.7	4.5	4.5	5.5	9.2	6.9	6.4	7.3	4.8	5.5	7.3
Coffee	17,960	18,068	18,010	18,000	17,810	18,260	18,320	18,080	18,010	18,000	18,300	18,100	18,070	18,410	18,890
	6.3	6.5	6.9	6.5	6.1	6.3	7.1	7.3	7.3	6.2	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.9	6.7
Colbert	23,872	23,713	24,000	23,680	23,540	23,950	24,020	24,220	24,050	23,940	24,280	23,850	23,950	24,110	24,570
	10.2	9.2	9.6	9.6	8.2	9.1	9.4	10.5	12.6	11.5	11.5	9.5	8.6	9.5	10.8
Conecuh	6,009	5,623	5,650	5,540	5,530	5,590	5,770	5,710	5,660	5,540	5,560	5,510	5,520	5,580	5,620
	16.0	10.9	10.3	10.4	10.2	9.3	9.9	12.6	12.3	11.4	10.8	9.7	8.6	11.5	10.1
Coosa	4,988	4,952	5,060	4,950	4,960	5,030	5,010	4,960	4,890	4,850	4,940	4,970	4,960	5,050	5,080
	5.5	6.2	7.5	6.4	5.8	5.5	7.2	8.1	8.2	7.4	7.7	5.8	5.6	6.7	6.3
Covington	17,413	17,374	17,350	17,320	17,070	17,480	17,890	18,060	17,800	17,560	17,650	17,420	17,580	17,760	18,190
	7.5	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.3	9.4	9.1	9.4	9.5	8.4	7.9	6.5	5.9	7.0	8.0
Crenshaw	6,538	6,777	6,830	6,880	6,820	6,990	7,120	6,900	6,920	6,810	6,930	6,850	6,920	7,050	7,170
	9.2	7.0	7.0	6.6	6.4	5.8	7.0	7.4	9.1	7.0	6.5	6.1	5.9	7.3	7.2
Cullman	31,713	32,049	32,170	32,300	32,260	32,610	33,060	32,770	32,580	31,990	32,420	32,270	32,610	32,980	33,470
	7.7	7.3	6.7	7.5	6.7	6.8	7.3	7.7	8.7	7.6	7.1	5.9	5.5	6.1	6.4
Dale	17,831	17,971	18,130	17,940	17,920	18,230	18,290	18,420	18,130	18,010	18,310	18,180	18,500	18,610	18,620
	7.5	7.8	8.3	7.8	7.6	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.9	8.1	8.2	7.0	7.4	8.1	7.4
Dallas	21,371	20,411	20,810	20,630	20,270	20,480	20,470	20,350	20,140	19,970	20,090	19,900	20,030	20,470	21,060
	14.6	12.1	12.3	12.9	12.2	11.4	11.4	11.9	12.5	12.1	11.3	10.8	10.6	12.5	13.6
DeKalb	29,014	29,821	30,290	30,150	29,650	30,320	30,670	30,410	30,170	29,830	30,470	30,230	30,170	31,020	32,070
	7.8	7.3	7.9	7.4	6.8	6.7	7.3	7.8	9.1	8.4	8.4	7.0	6.0	6.8	7.1
Elmore	21,000	21,508	21,690	21,460	21,450	21,710	21,830	21,760	21,430	21,590	21,860	21,540	21,800	21,710	21,860
	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.5	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.3	5.9	5.3	5.6	6.3	6.0
Escambia	16,782	16,373	16,290	16,370	16,230	16,450	16,730	16,530	16,380	16,200	16,350	16,100	16,100	16,520	16,790
	10.4	9.7	9.5	9.9	8.8	8.6	10.2	11.0	11.8	10.4	9.6	9.5	8.8	9.9	9.2
Etowah	43,120	42,183	42,670	42,470	42,540	42,540	42,850	42,710	42,330	42,080	42,800	42,030	42,490	43,100	43,810
	9.2	8.4	8.0	7.9	8.4	8.1	9.8	10.2	11.4	10.1	10.2	7.9	7.8	9.5	9.5
Fayette	7,636	7,478	7,410	7,350	7,530	7,540	7,680	7,570	7,620	7,670	7,650	7,630	7,680	7,780	7,740
	10.6	8.1	7.7	7.1	7.3	7.0	7.8	8.0	10.2	10.2	7.9	8.1	7.5	8.1	12.4
Franklin	15,130	14,549	14,770	14,810	14,390	14,660	14,760	14,690	14,670	14,510	14,770	14,510	14,800	15,230	15,760
	10.1	10.8	10.1	10.5	8.8	14.2	13.5	11.8	13.2	12.3	11.4	10.6	9.4	10.3	12.7
Geneva	10,443	10,563	10,570	10,390	10,580	11,000	10,960	10,800	10,740	10,640	10,740	10,690	10,670	10,980	11,290
	6.2	5.5	5.9	5.2	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.9	6.3	5.6	5.3	5.0	4.1	5.3	6.3
Greene	3,743	3,646	3,690	3,660	3,590	3,630	3,780	3,650	3,750	3,650	3,660	3,610	3,590	3,830	3,890
	15.3	11.8	11.6	12.5	9.3	9.2	10.1	11.0	14.5	11.9	11.5	10.7	9.3	13.0	11.6
Hale	6,105	6,067	6,150	6,040	6,010	6,120	6,380	6,240	6,280	6,150	6,250	6,130	6,200	6,340	6,390
	8.2	7.8	8.0	7.9	7.0	6.5	7.7	8.4	10.8	8.3	8.0	7.0	7.1	8.7	8.3
Henry	6,766	6,960	6,900	6,950	7,000	7,110	7,370	7,120	7,070	6,890	6,890	6,720	6,690	6,740	6,890
	6.6	6.2	7.1	7.7	6.1	5.2	5.7	5.6	7.7	6.9	6.5	6.0	5.4	6.6	7.7
Houston	40,014	40,337	41,140	40,440	40,300	40,540	40,730	40,920	40,630	40,350	40,930	40,810	41,300	41,740	41,940
	5.8	5.5	7.0	5.9	5.5	5.1	5.3	5.3	6.5	5.6	5.5	4.7	4.5	5.7	5.4
Jackson	20,929	20,804	20,800	20,620	20,520	20,430	20,580	20,790	21,150	20,620	20,680	20,610	20,710	21,170	21,180
	9.4	12.0	13.8	13.8	12.7	12.8	13.3	14.7	17.2	15.0	13.5	12.4	10.2	12.1	11.5
Jefferson	338,868	331,653	333,350	336,810	333,320	335,940	333,140	335,760	330,350	330,160	334,580	332,120	336,640	339,940	341,690
	6.6	5.8	6.1	6.5	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.7	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.1	5.9	6.0
Lamar	8,675	8,518	8,590	8,350	8,510	8,540	8,810	8,590	8,540	8,460	8,690	8,600	8,590	8,720	8,940
	6.9	6.2	8.9	5.7	6.6	6.1	6.0	5.9	7.1	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.4	7.6	11.9
Lauderdale	36,490	36,645	36,970	37,000	36,540	36,830	36,820	37,330	36,530	36,630	36,980	36,610	37,090	37,310	37,650
	8.2	7.5	7.6	8.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	8.6	9.4	9.0	8.5	7.3	7.1	7.9	8.4
Lawrence	11,918	12,687	12,740	13,070	12,530	12,590	12,640	13,000	13,130	12,880	12,860	12,650	12,890	13,470	13,760
	12.7	10.5	10.1	13.3	9.2	9.1	9.3	12.2	14.1	12.9	12.4	9.8	9.6	13.7	13.9

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988						1989						
	1987	1988	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT															
Lee	38,259 5.4	38,786 5.1	38,800 6.2	38,990 5.5	39,150 5.0	39,750 4.9	39,700 5.0	39,500 5.0	39,030 5.0	39,180 4.4	39,750 4.4	39,440 3.7	40,170 4.0	39,860 5.3	39,940 5.0
Limestone	30,096 6.5	30,997 6.1	31,610 6.4	30,560 7.6	31,510 5.0	32,040 5.1	32,210 6.0	31,450 6.5	31,100 7.8	30,750 6.9	30,590 6.4	30,420 5.5	30,670 5.0	30,630 7.1	30,150 8.7
Lowndes	4,688 19.3	5,347 14.3	5,730 13.8	5,780 14.3	5,790 11.7	5,860 11.1	6,050 11.2	5,960 11.7	5,960 13.7	6,230 12.6	6,390 11.7	6,450 10.7	6,530 10.4	6,770 13.6	7,050 14.5
Macon	10,563 6.7	10,389 7.6	10,530 8.3	10,430 8.3	10,320 7.2	10,380 7.2	10,400 7.6	10,280 7.8	10,270 9.4	10,180 8.1	10,190 7.0	10,010 6.3	10,130 6.4	9,980 7.6	10,340 7.6
Madison	130,399 5.2	132,750 5.1	134,170 5.6	134,090 5.5	134,170 5.0	135,130 4.7	134,880 5.1	136,170 5.3	133,930 5.7	133,930 5.3	135,050 5.0	134,840 4.5	137,550 4.2	139,230 5.4	139,440 5.4
Marengo	9,838 8.4	9,588 7.2	9,760 7.4	9,600 7.1	9,510 6.6	9,610 6.2	9,760 6.6	9,740 8.1	9,420 8.5	9,370 7.6	9,460 7.2	9,380 6.7	9,490 6.5	9,770 8.0	9,860 8.1
Marion	15,548 10.7	15,624 8.5	15,920 7.7	15,770 6.5	15,550 7.1	15,610 7.6	15,650 8.5	15,320 9.2	15,680 12.9	15,200 9.3	15,280 8.6	15,220 9.2	15,400 9.0	15,680 11.5	16,020 13.9
Marshall	37,288 7.9	38,209 7.8	38,530 6.8	38,400 7.0	38,220 6.1	38,500 6.4	39,540 10.0	38,930 8.4	38,890 9.4	38,600 8.4	38,620 8.0	38,430 6.4	39,130 5.8	39,600 7.2	40,330 7.8
Mobile	172,319 9.7	169,208 9.2	171,350 8.8	170,640 9.3	167,700 8.9	169,030 8.8	171,310 9.5	172,480 10.4	170,570 10.9	170,930 10.5	172,520 9.7	170,030 9.1	170,740 8.3	172,510 9.5	174,660 9.3
Monroe	9,708 11.7	9,641 9.8	9,760 10.3	9,680 9.3	9,510 7.8	9,810 9.6	9,950 10.4	9,790 10.6	9,840 12.1	9,780 12.0	9,970 12.2	9,730 10.8	9,810 9.9	9,850 10.7	10,010 10.3
Montgomery	100,183 6.5	99,398 6.3	100,940 6.7	99,670 6.7	98,910 6.0	100,060 5.7	100,460 6.2	100,250 6.2	99,320 6.9	99,120 6.2	100,700 6.1	99,410 5.8	100,580 6.0	100,560 7.0	102,020 7.4
Morgan	46,674 8.5	46,803 7.6	47,180 7.4	47,670 9.4	46,610 7.0	46,690 6.6	47,060 7.2	47,720 8.8	46,970 8.5	46,400 7.9	47,120 9.0	46,520 6.5	47,290 6.2	48,670 9.0	49,530 8.9
Perry	5,363 11.8	5,608 10.1	5,710 9.2	5,660 9.4	5,610 7.8	5,730 7.2	6,050 10.2	5,960 17.8	5,860 16.9	5,780 11.1	5,810 9.4	5,700 7.4	5,780 7.8	5,800 9.1	6,020 9.2
Pickens	7,268 11.2	7,168 10.2	7,240 11.3	7,110 10.1	7,140 8.3	7,250 8.2	7,360 8.0	7,330 9.6	7,330 11.9	7,190 10.8	7,270 10.0	7,150 10.0	7,210 8.9	7,320 11.7	7,380 10.2
Pike	12,545 7.0	12,639 6.2	12,350 6.9	12,210 7.3	12,880 6.7	13,080 5.6	13,160 5.7	12,580 7.0	12,990 6.8	12,900 5.9	13,140 6.1	12,970 5.3	13,170 5.3	12,980 6.6	13,060 6.5
Randolph	9,586 6.4	9,341 6.7	9,270 9.1	9,290 9.5	9,200 7.6	9,600 6.4	9,580 5.3	9,610 6.4	9,530 7.2	9,370 6.3	9,520 6.5	9,320 5.8	9,330 5.9	9,400 7.5	9,370 8.9
Russell	22,475 7.1	23,306 6.3	23,420 6.3	23,330 5.4	23,240 5.5	24,090 8.1	23,270 6.4	23,520 6.3	22,850 6.2	22,960 5.8	23,080 5.1	22,980 4.6	23,340 4.6	23,540 5.5	23,730 5.9
St. Clair	21,388 6.0	21,522 6.0	21,730 6.7	21,710 6.0	21,550 5.6	21,750 5.5	21,670 6.0	21,940 6.6	21,730 7.6	21,640 6.8	22,110 7.3	21,740 6.2	21,820 5.2	22,050 6.0	22,150 6.1
Shelby	40,103 5.0	40,287 4.6	40,690 5.3	40,710 4.7	40,410 4.3	40,690 4.0	40,640 4.8	40,970 4.9	40,530 5.9	40,330 4.9	40,840 4.6	40,390 4.1	40,960 3.9	41,490 5.0	41,830 5.5
Sumter	5,919 12.6	5,585 10.0	5,620 11.9	5,600 11.5	5,690 8.8	5,730 7.1	5,830 7.7	5,690 9.4	5,750 10.8	5,640 7.7	5,750 8.1	5,650 7.6	5,700 7.2	6,090 11.8	6,250 10.7
Talladega	32,228 9.6	31,840 10.0	32,310 11.4	32,260 10.9	31,980 9.6	32,140 9.6	32,110 10.3	32,500 10.6	31,920 12.3	31,810 11.3	32,090 10.5	31,880 9.7	32,020 9.1	32,290 11.1	33,420 13.2
Tallapoosa	18,992 6.5	18,483 6.3	18,720 6.9	18,590 6.5	18,340 5.6	18,700 6.1	18,670 6.0	18,570 5.8	18,440 7.2	18,290 5.7	18,520 5.7	18,510 5.8	18,720 5.0	18,940 5.4	19,130 6.7
Tuscaloosa	69,623 6.1	70,020 5.4	68,980 5.7	69,840 5.8	70,530 5.4	71,660 5.0	71,540 5.0	71,870 5.5	70,880 6.0	70,920 5.4	72,000 5.4	71,680 5.0	72,400 5.3	71,250 5.7	72,080 5.8
Walker	28,983 11.0	28,521 9.1	28,280 8.1	28,620 8.7	28,800 9.5	28,990 9.2	28,910 9.7	29,290 10.3	29,190 11.9	29,070 11.1	29,250 10.3	29,590 11.8	29,070 8.8	29,020 8.5	29,370 9.3
Washington	5,719 13.4	6,583 11.0	6,640 12.1	6,610 12.5	6,660 12.3	6,740 11.6	6,900 12.0	6,950 14.1	7,000 14.2	6,950 13.4	6,990 13.2	6,750 10.3	6,800 9.0	6,870 10.5	7,040 11.9
Wilcox	4,407 12.6	4,243 12.1	4,240 12.4	4,190 13.0	4,210 12.3	4,200 10.5	4,480 12.0	4,350 15.3	4,200 16.7	4,260 17.7	4,270 16.0	4,090 12.6	4,210 12.3	4,360 15.8	4,350 16.4
Winston	9,883 13.9	10,401 10.8	10,690 10.0	10,620 8.6	10,400 8.0	10,610 11.2	10,710 10.6	10,510 11.9	10,600 14.1	10,460 14.9	10,370 10.8	10,350 8.6	10,490 7.8	10,550 9.4	10,850 11.1
TRADE															
Foreign															
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[5] *(1,000 tons)*	29,363	32,684	3,030	2,661	2,701	3,970	2,668	2,646	3,123	2,788	3,067	2,736	3,752	2,633	3,585
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, non-industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	28,038	28,507	3,047	3,123	2,582	1,966	1,820	2,263	2,338	2,120	2,193	1,938	2,128		
Gasoline sales[6] *(1,000 gallons)*	2,084,218	2,072,236	173,666	175,002	179,095	155,015	190,201	186,652	161,069	158,657	162,351	199,546	186,328	182,508	
New passenger car registrations[7] *(number)*	140,070	133,614	11,208	11,045	11,502	10,571	10,060	11,594	9,256	8,572	9,762	10,212	8,082	7,282	7,599
Taxable retail sales by kind of business, state totals[8] *($1,000,000)*															
Food	4,093	4,122	363	347	344	344	338	372	342	331	352	350	346	362	353
General merchandise	2,862	3,047	237	247	236	253	294	413	198	197	254	257	256	249	240
Apparel	853	933	67	81	75	79	90	141	53	53	88	69	69	71	66
Furniture, furnishings, etc	977	1,029	84	85	87	81	91	127	75	70	81	79	82	84	80
Automotive	4,018	4,231	370	387	343	321	301	331	305	305	387	359	389	385	363
Gasoline service stations	286	295	26	27	24	24	23	26	25	22	26	25	26	27	26
Lumber and building materials	1,677	1,713	149	156	148	152	134	135	117	104	137	148	155	138	139
Hardware and farm implements	228	234	19	20	19	19	18	22	17	15	20	20	21	21	19
Eating places	1,791	1,913	170	168	159	163	156	174	150	146	172	169	172	177	171
Drug stores	391	418	32	33	33	32	32	48	39	34	35	36	33	31	29
All other retail	1,533	1,640	119	128	128	132	148	233	130	125	139	124	132	125	115
Total sales by retail concerns	18,709	19,576	1,637	1,678	1,598	1,602	1,626	2,022	1,450	1,402	1,691	1,637	1,681	1,671	1,600
Nonretail & unclassified concerns	3,160	3,414	280	312	308	288	281	306	279	275	297	283	308	304	286
Total all sales at retail	21,868	22,990	1,918	1,990	1,905	1,890	1,907	2,328	1,730	1,678	1,988	1,920	1,989	1,975	1,886

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988						1989						
	1987	1988	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
TRADE CONTINUED															
Taxable retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[8] *($1,000)*															
MSAs															
Anniston	602,268	625,346	52,346	55,310	53,145	51,188	52,088	60,771	45,249	43,194	52,306	49,843	52,190	51,980	52,686
Birmingham	5,797,096	5,899,767	493,471	512,934	496,255	475,274	455,549	567,636	453,338	433,942	500,167	482,544	496,200	494,822	464,371
Decatur	649,766	685,654	57,702	60,496	56,213	57,896	56,794	68,577	50,116	46,029	56,554	56,209	58,372	56,926	55,290
Dothan	696,013	710,085	62,350	60,850	57,920	57,303	58,846	70,378	59,223	59,045	70,848	66,052	67,948	69,955	64,765
Florence	718,517	766,166	62,499	67,313	62,740	64,097	65,309	82,599	62,269	58,377	74,093	71,181	74,971	72,874	70,863
Gadsden	524,919	557,113	47,003	48,916	44,571	43,817	44,746	57,467	39,180	37,181	47,829	45,339	47,616	46,554	38,107
Huntsville	1,302,226	1,350,818	112,833	115,396	108,742	108,512	110,032	131,495	117,158	110,244	133,484	126,348	132,188	131,047	128,392
Mobile	2,312,321	2,354,959	204,634	204,058	191,361	190,952	183,058	227,144	201,430	189,915	222,000	216,362	220,010	222,106	223,263
Montgomery	1,719,824	1,778,359	146,828	154,686	148,208	140,609	144,487	180,688	153,461	143,505	175,461	164,657	169,872	167,933	162,439
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,898	62,421	67,891	64,040	62,316	63,326	76,573	60,892	59,713	63,271	62,948	66,935	68,623	63,246
Counties															
Autauga	122,285	128,892	11,675	12,021	10,681	10,532	9,853	11,714	13,180	12,250	14,093	14,613	14,711	15,052	14,395
Baldwin	374,180	389,866	40,063	36,794	31,206	30,932	27,608	32,982	35,350	33,963	43,441	43,612	44,667	47,322	49,369
Barbour	84,828	85,954	7,830	7,242	7,152	7,029	6,843	8,442	6,729	6,555	7,788	7,880	7,639	7,714	7,367
Bibb	51,658	51,762	4,448	4,638	4,367	4,361	4,647	4,431	3,436	3,306	3,719	3,863	3,806	3,955	3,633
Blount	110,515	114,936	9,785	10,029	9,633	9,663	10,085	10,506	8,460	8,258	10,051	9,812	10,394	9,878	9,503
Bullock	25,271	23,569	1,853	1,703	1,829	1,855	1,939	2,502	1,783	1,682	2,085	1,795	1,759	1,772	1,695
Butler	62,697	61,508	5,052	5,337	5,088	4,940	4,667	5,722	4,748	4,319	5,149	5,031	5,074	4,772	4,618
Calhoun	602,268	625,346	52,346	55,310	53,145	51,188	52,088	60,771	45,249	43,194	52,306	49,843	52,190	51,980	52,686
Chambers	125,636	124,754	10,323	11,064	10,029	10,104	10,164	10,431	9,831	9,881	11,460	11,293	11,395	11,748	11,053
Cherokee	51,230	54,698	4,320	4,773	4,356	4,400	4,552	4,641	4,965	4,897	5,933	6,005	5,942	6,037	5,513
Chilton	122,615	133,409	11,371	11,887	10,263	10,743	11,112	11,897	8,977	8,842	10,744	11,033	11,228	10,463	10,685
Choctaw	38,404	36,958	3,241	2,934	2,971	2,973	3,034	3,580	2,741	2,771	3,196	3,028	3,061	3,146	2,806
Clarke	104,604	105,709	9,526	9,279	8,952	8,513	8,297	9,759	7,979	7,581	8,695	8,924	8,978	9,077	8,450
Clay	31,968	32,920	2,939	3,061	2,596	2,835	2,603	3,032	2,834	2,769	2,921	2,708	3,001	2,995	2,772
Cleburne	26,929	28,828	2,452	2,850	2,523	2,439	2,302	2,639	2,620	2,202	2,716	2,364	3,026	2,384	2,713
Coffee	211,223	206,937	17,118	17,951	17,874	16,651	17,344	18,070	14,145	15,796	17,178	15,871	18,750	17,579	15,942
Colbert	293,782	315,529	25,638	29,082	26,075	27,647	26,715	30,599	27,596	25,916	31,022	30,367	31,801	30,796	29,588
Conecuh	32,476	29,407	2,752	2,438	2,480	2,199	2,533	2,694	3,095	2,499	3,012	2,815	2,855	2,595	2,822
Coosa	12,707	13,545	1,121	1,275	1,095	1,049	1,488	1,167	990	1,051	1,316	1,297	1,223	1,126	1,147
Covington	142,938	142,049	12,234	12,516	11,863	11,316	11,468	12,715	12,498	12,669	14,585	14,832	15,447	14,644	14,196
Crenshaw	40,376	40,859	3,495	3,608	3,602	3,461	3,358	3,781	3,502	3,553	4,048	3,413	3,684	3,338	3,586
Cullman	269,229	280,421	24,531	24,835	23,820	23,349	21,720	26,065	22,818	21,578	26,408	26,977	28,687	26,952	25,142
Dale	121,169	127,603	11,203	11,162	10,980	11,040	10,129	11,740	11,264	10,648	12,746	11,795	12,780	13,231	12,740
Dallas	219,565	218,345	19,341	19,243	17,411	17,683	18,142	19,965	15,233	14,779	17,773	17,467	18,688	16,838	16,033
DeKalb	212,053	227,282	19,046	19,883	19,277	19,195	18,391	20,799	15,049	14,937	18,301	18,296	18,471	18,813	17,908
Elmore	111,814	116,892	10,003	9,773	9,802	9,118	8,770	10,391	11,444	11,100	13,448	13,286	13,394	13,083	13,136
Escambia	136,495	137,983	11,615	12,719	11,442	10,843	10,578	13,144	9,315	9,258	10,817	11,496	11,198	11,001	10,021
Etowah	524,919	557,113	47,003	48,916	44,571	43,817	44,746	57,467	39,180	37,181	47,829	45,339	47,616	46,554	38,107
Fayette	66,589	65,808	5,399	5,545	5,357	5,284	5,191	6,907	4,450	4,430	5,443	4,744	5,272	5,108	5,041
Franklin	108,599	114,120	9,205	9,988	9,587	9,515	9,461	10,962	7,874	7,328	9,326	9,328	9,035	9,158	8,588
Geneva	131,414	119,883	9,555	10,029	9,858	9,801	11,414	10,713	4,640	4,461	5,199	5,027	5,073	4,959	4,474
Greene	18,730	19,657	1,695	1,842	1,672	1,532	1,642	1,582	1,804	1,725	2,007	2,073	2,027	1,862	2,088
Hale	30,315	29,334	2,754	2,576	2,510	2,502	2,415	2,573	2,565	2,427	2,781	2,871	3,184	2,769	2,954
Henry	41,338	43,731	3,904	3,722	3,843	3,956	3,958	4,308	3,290	3,557	3,730	3,602	3,522	3,870	3,074
Houston	574,844	582,482	51,147	49,688	46,940	46,263	48,717	58,638	47,959	48,397	58,102	54,257	55,168	56,724	52,025
Jackson	166,029	175,783	14,310	15,092	15,257	15,969	14,546	16,264	12,922	12,455	16,101	15,854	18,521	16,531	16,088
Jefferson	4,822,225	4,872,047	405,132	422,787	411,556	391,152	373,124	476,157	373,287	353,756	405,382	386,811	401,599	396,947	373,685
Lamar	37,102	34,236	2,697	2,963	2,831	2,746	2,847	3,454	2,887	2,783	3,517	3,316	3,394	3,149	2,916
Lauderdale	424,735	450,637	36,861	38,231	36,665	36,450	38,594	52,000	34,673	32,461	43,071	40,814	43,170	42,078	41,275
Lawrence	65,221	68,295	5,924	5,957	5,408	5,777	5,718	6,937	5,270	4,970	6,153	6,083	6,408	5,932	5,550
Lee	403,068	422,058	32,796	34,437	35,458	35,292	38,827	41,821	33,237	30,861	37,400	37,609	35,675	36,488	35,083
Limestone	195,876	203,248	17,196	17,798	16,253	17,330	15,721	19,465	15,893	14,881	18,500	18,304	19,737	18,802	17,450
Lowndes	21,658	22,210	1,975	1,767	2,023	1,597	1,845	2,448	1,649	1,776	2,151	1,913	2,050	2,201	1,851
Macon	53,662	50,031	4,240	4,466	4,179	3,541	3,490	3,920	4,853	4,834	5,645	5,309	5,444	5,516	5,359
Madison	1,302,226	1,350,818	112,833	115,396	108,742	108,512	110,032	131,495	117,158	110,244	133,484	126,348	132,188	131,047	128,392
Marengo	81,060	82,613	6,717	7,280	7,178	7,185	7,203	7,685	6,829	6,929	8,154	7,883	8,014	7,793	7,678
Marion	110,875	115,332	9,545	9,837	9,637	9,471	9,812	10,994	9,107	8,174	10,387	10,495	10,452	10,646	9,790
Marshall	427,632	447,076	38,899	39,374	36,605	36,062	37,232	42,208	32,262	31,383	40,011	39,545	41,557	39,696	38,062
Mobile	1,938,141	1,965,093	164,571	167,264	160,155	160,020	155,450	194,162	166,080	155,952	178,559	172,750	175,343	174,784	173,894
Monroe	73,217	78,057	6,530	6,706	6,453	6,267	6,805	7,603	7,439	7,296	9,298	8,322	8,873	8,375	8,931
Montgomery	1,485,725	1,532,575	125,150	132,892	127,725	120,959	125,864	158,583	128,837	120,155	147,920	136,758	141,767	139,798	134,908
Morgan	584,545	617,359	51,778	54,539	50,805	52,119	51,076	61,640	44,846	41,059	50,401	50,126	51,964	50,994	49,740
Perry	23,734	22,630	1,953	1,873	2,102	1,676	1,738	2,173	1,977	1,945	2,544	2,073	2,107	2,038	2,052
Pickens	42,458	41,967	3,860	3,672	3,164	3,340	3,453	3,925	3,771	3,692	4,460	4,511	4,628	4,509	4,026
Pike	115,053	117,718	10,075	9,979	10,273	9,646	9,346	10,804	11,380	10,413	12,418	11,627	11,501	12,021	10,843
Randolph	59,796	61,298	4,713	4,875	5,172	5,158	4,673	6,585	5,554	5,212	6,503	6,223	6,463	6,326	5,761
Russell	131,628	131,576	10,722	11,545	10,373	10,453	10,544	12,683	11,212	11,379	13,576	13,930	14,585	13,442	12,422
St. Clair	151,136	151,401	13,200	13,025	12,577	11,919	11,647	13,950	10,816	11,448	13,517	13,716	13,426	14,043	12,275
Shelby	349,404	372,773	32,085	32,538	30,549	31,071	29,489	31,315	32,747	32,837	39,111	39,329	38,479	39,554	37,628
Sumter	32,578	33,466	2,611	2,795	2,621	2,988	2,991	3,093	2,937	2,764	3,427	3,087	3,188	3,218	2,878
Talladega	299,552	322,891	28,979	27,250	26,637	25,697	24,757	30,181	26,540	26,369	32,810	29,285	34,769	31,070	32,449
Tallapoosa	152,999	156,650	13,747	13,179	12,597	12,389	12,758	13,812	9,891	9,399	11,678	11,616	12,419	12,340	11,941
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,898	62,421	67,891	64,040	62,316	63,326	76,573	60,892	59,713	63,271	62,948	66,935	68,623	63,246
Walker	363,816	388,610	33,269	34,555	31,940	31,469	31,204	35,708	28,028	27,643	32,106	32,876	32,302	34,400	31,280
Washington	22,573	22,106	2,123	1,657	1,679	1,791	1,648	1,834	1,902	1,854	2,119	2,439	2,138	2,086	1,745
Wilcox	23,251	20,471	1,665	1,692	1,593	1,699	1,714	2,124	2,146	1,986	2,378	2,170	2,125	2,080	2,005
Winston	92,401	97,344	8,513	8,842	7,842	8,268	7,858	8,956	6,736	6,121	6,945	7,781	8,388	8,059	8,030
Statewide[8]	1,839,693	2,406,769	184,567	201,655	200,403	221,361	253,948	330,038	98,157	119,241	135,680	131,203	134,543	141,355	130,799

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding.

[1] Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data.

[2] Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data.

[3] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of Dodge\DRI Construction and Real Estate Information Service.

[4] Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year.

[5] Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.

[6] Gross gallons of gasoline as reported by wholesale distributors.

[7] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

[8] Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. ***Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters.*** Retail sales historical data prior to 1984 are not available for the new series. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual countries; it does not represent a state total. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms.

Alabama by the Numbers...

The ***Economic Abstract of Alabama***, 1989 edition, is the most comprehensive source of demographic and economic information available about Alabama and its counties. Business, government, the news media - those who need to know about the state and its people - have come to rely on ***The Economic Abstract of Alabama*** to fulfill their needs for quantitative information.

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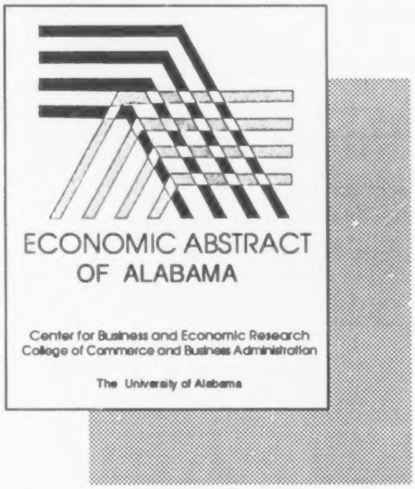

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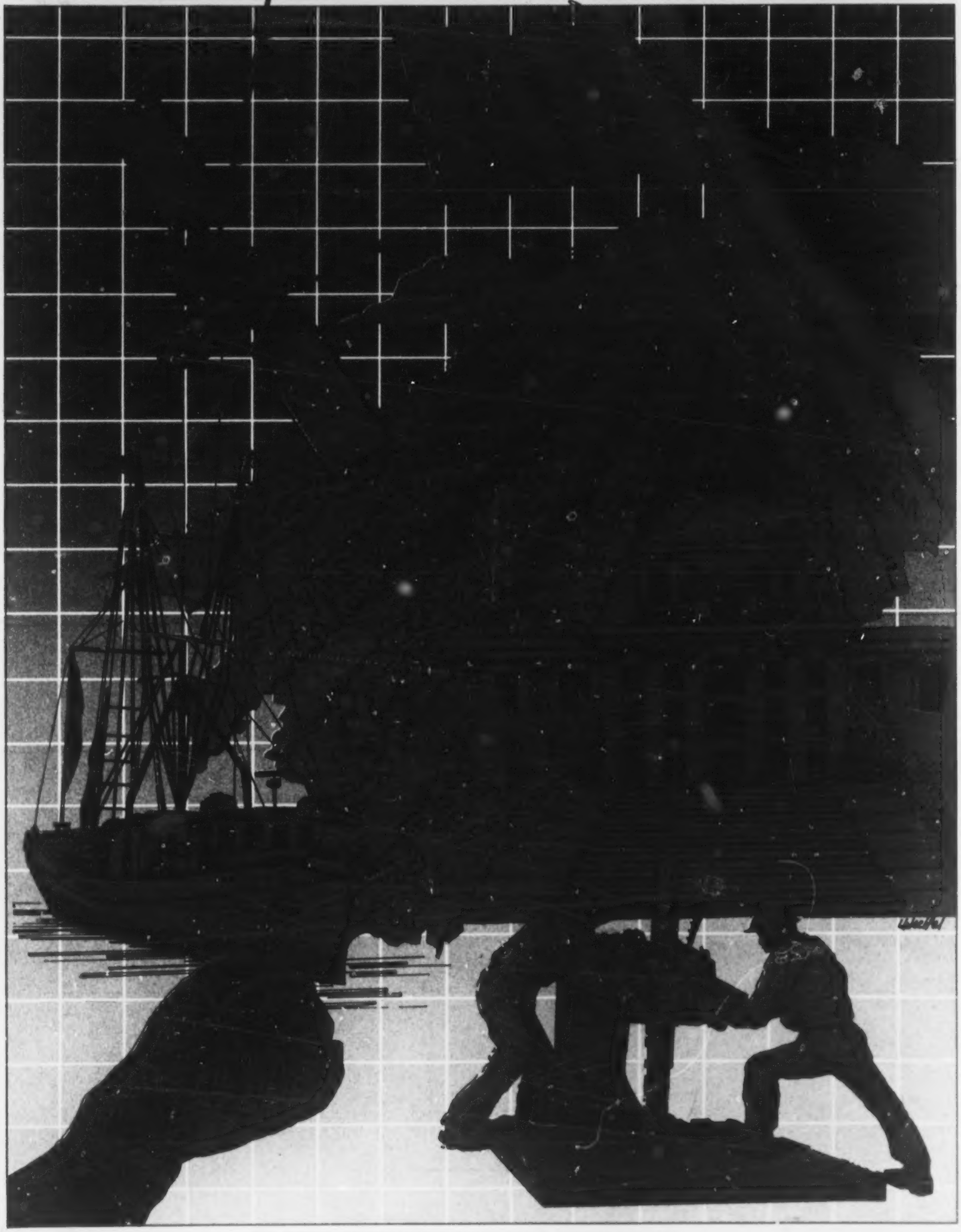

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
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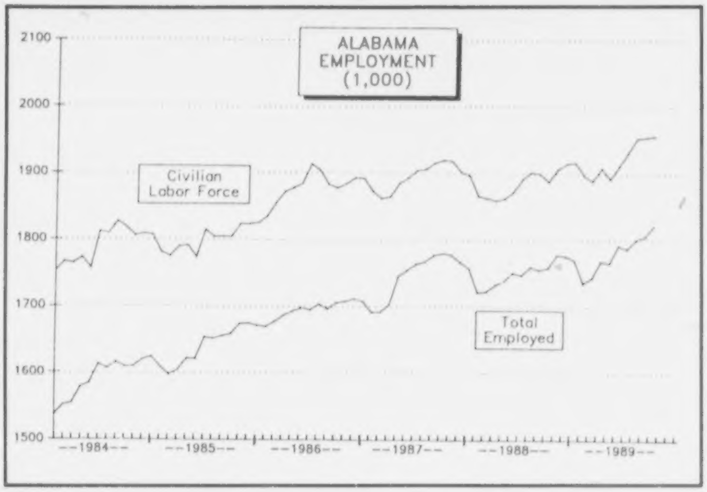
Alabama Business is a monthly publication of the Center for Business and Economic Research of The University of Alabama College of Commerce and Business Administration. Articles reflect the opinions of the authors, but not necessarily those of the staff of the Center, the faculty of the College of Commerce and Business Administration, or the administrative officials of The University of Alabama.

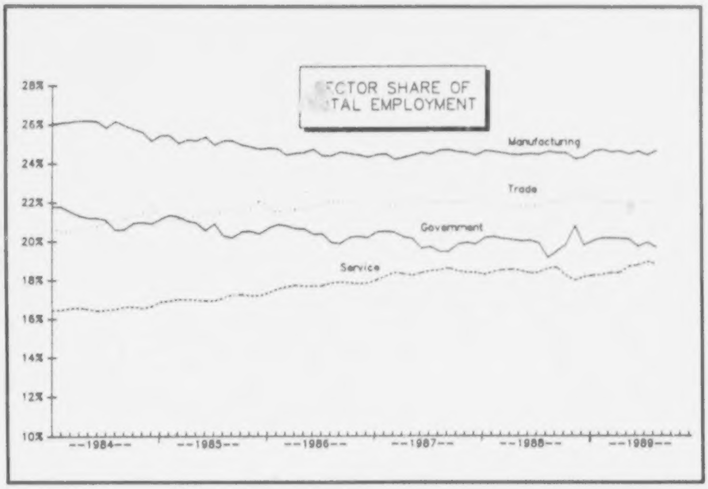
All correspondence should be addressed to: Beth Gibbs, Editor, ***Alabama Business***, Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone: (205) 348-6191.

ALABAMA EMPLOYMENT



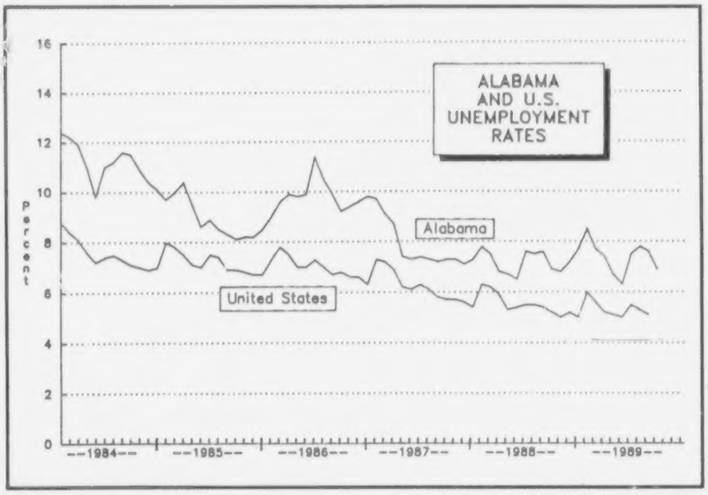
Alabama Employment

Alabama's civilian force reached 1.95 million in the third quarter of 1989. The number of jobs available has increased, meaning that record numbers of people were employed, approximately 1.81 million.



Alabama Nondurable Manufacturing Employment

The relative share of employment in service industries and in wholesale and retail trade in Alabama has increased over the last five years. Both industry groups show seasonal rises and falls, with trade showing the most pronounced employment peaks every year at the Christmas season. Manufacturing's share of total Alabama employment has declined over time but Alabama's share of manufacturing employment is still larger than the equivalent U.S. share.



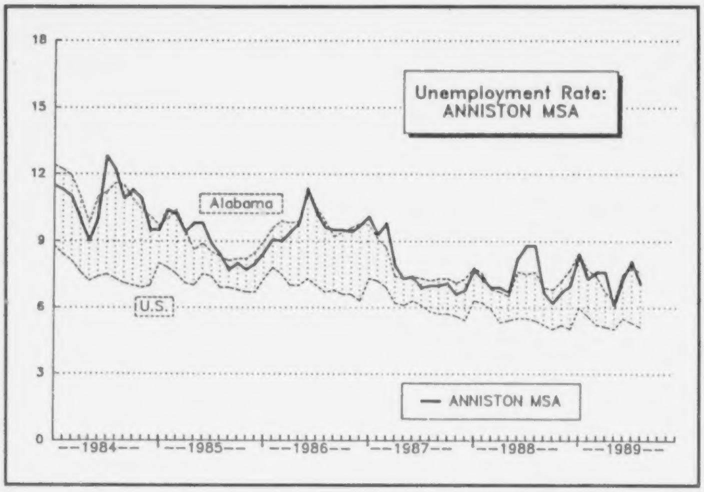
State and National Unemployment Rates

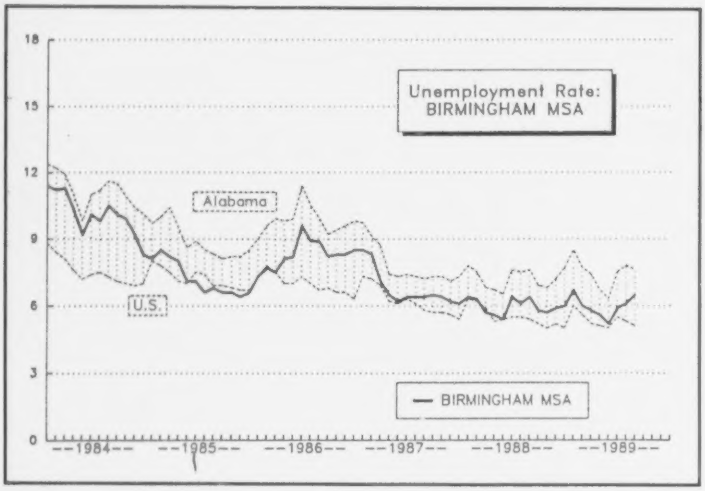
The average unemployment rate for the United States shows a seasonal low in the fourth quarter of every year and a seasonal high in the first quarter. For the last couple of years Alabama's seasonal rise during the summer has been quite pronounced.

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Anniston MSA

For several years the unemployment rate of the Anniston MSA has tracked very closely with the state average, except for a short time in mid-1988 when it was much higher than Alabama's rate. The variation has been less than one percent during the last year.



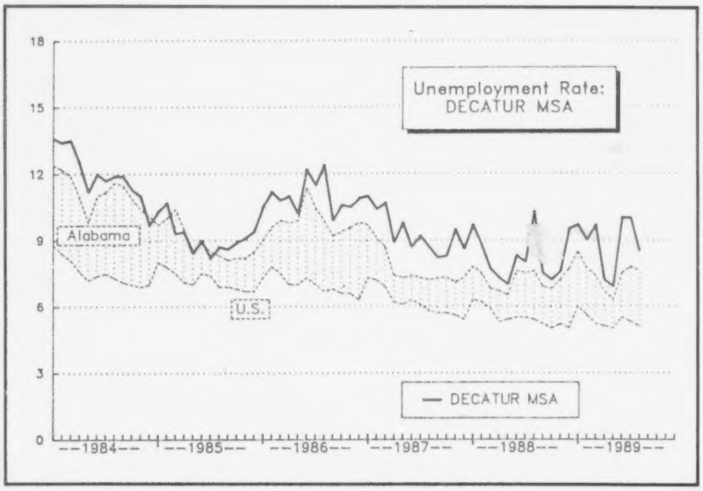


Birmingham MSA

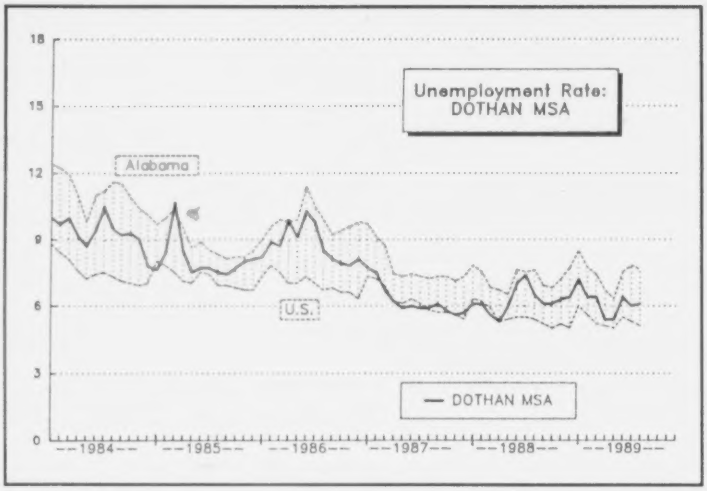
The unemployment rate for the Birmingham MSA has hovered around six percent during the first three quarters of 1989. The Birmingham MSA unemployment rate consistently falls below the average for the state and above the national average.

Decatur MSA

The unemployment rate in the Decatur metropolitan statistical area has shown a great deal of volatility in 1989. Decatur MSA's unemployment rate has been above that of the state average since the middle of the decade.



MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

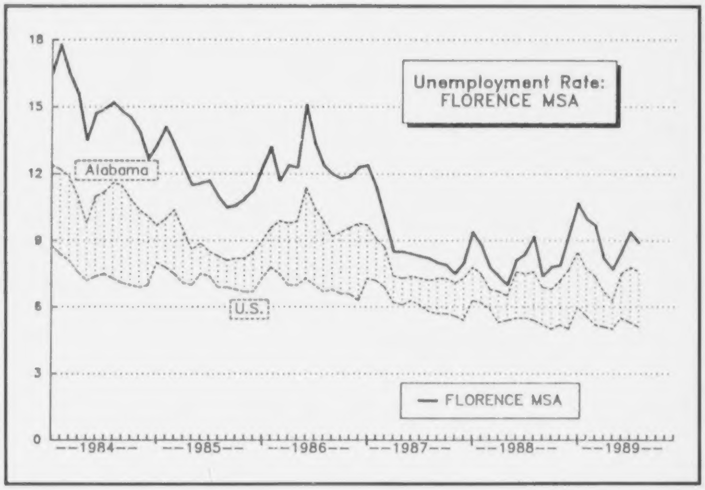


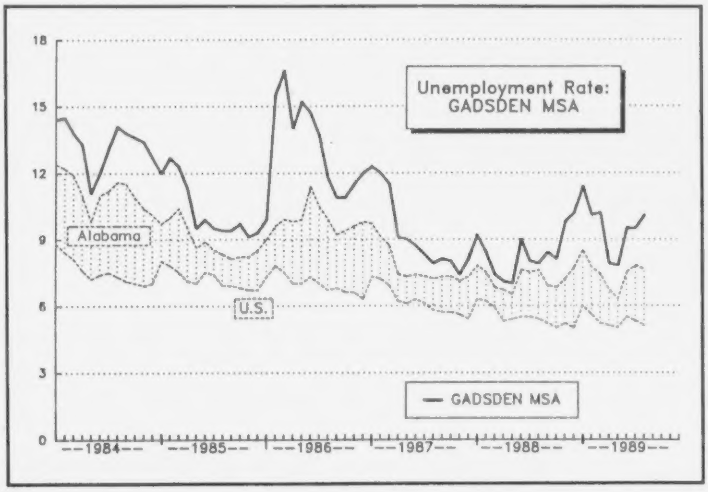
Dothan MSA

The unemployment rate for the Dothan MSA has averaged 6.2 percent for the first three quarters of 1989. This is below the state average but still above the national average.

Florence MSA

Unemployment in the Florence metropolitan area, consisting of Colbert and Lauderdale counties, has been higher in recent months than it was in 1988. Seasonal variations are noticeable, but the rate remains above the state and national averages.





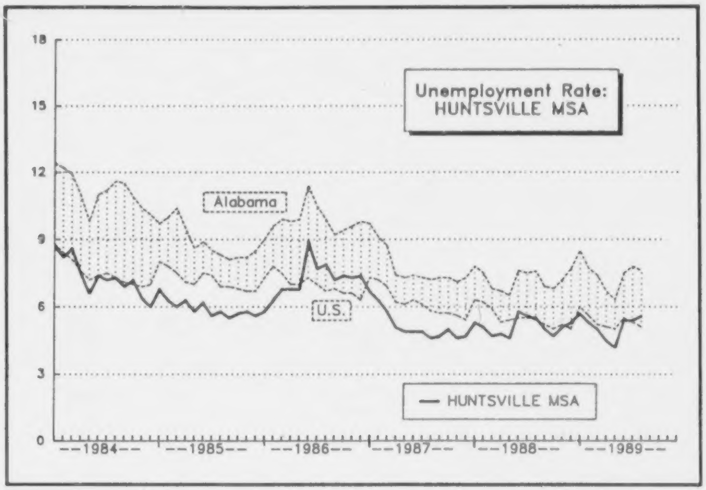
Gadsden MSA

Over the first three quarters of 1989 Gadsden has had the highest average unemployment rate of Alabama's metropolitan statistical areas. Gadsden's economy is heavily dependent upon manufacturing and this dependence, particularly in the primary metals industry, has contributed to these high unemployment rates.

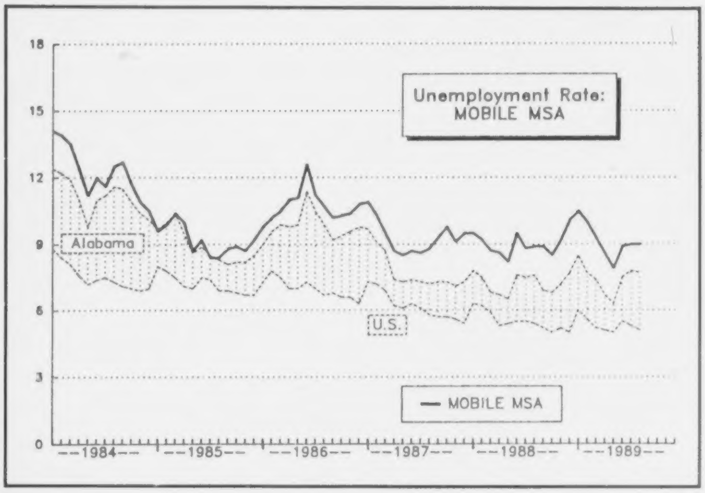
MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Huntsville MSA

The Huntsville MSA has the lowest unemployment rate of any of Alabama's metropolitan statistical areas. It is also the MSA that is growing the fastest. Between 1980 and 1988 the MSA gained 39,700 people. While increasing population means an increase in the civilian labor force, employment opportunities have remained good, particularly in nonmanufacturing sectors such as service industries and construction.



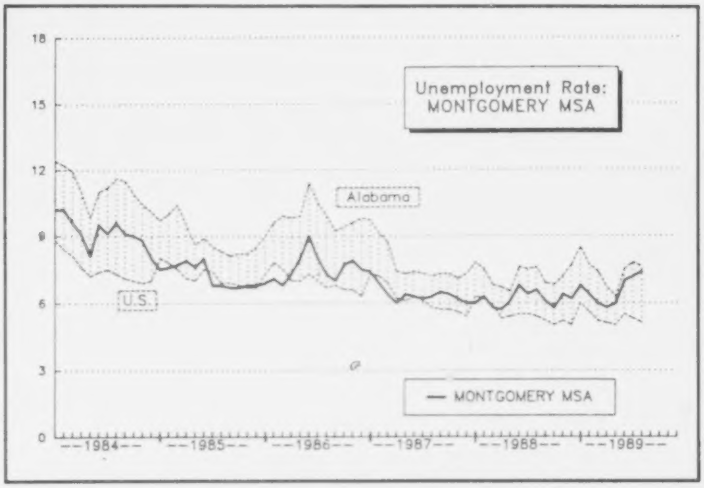
Mobile MSA



The Mobile MSA unemployment rate has been among the highest in the state for several years. In January the rate was 10.5 percent, the highest it has been since January of 1987. Since the first of this year it has fallen from that level, but remains above the state average.

Montgomery MSA

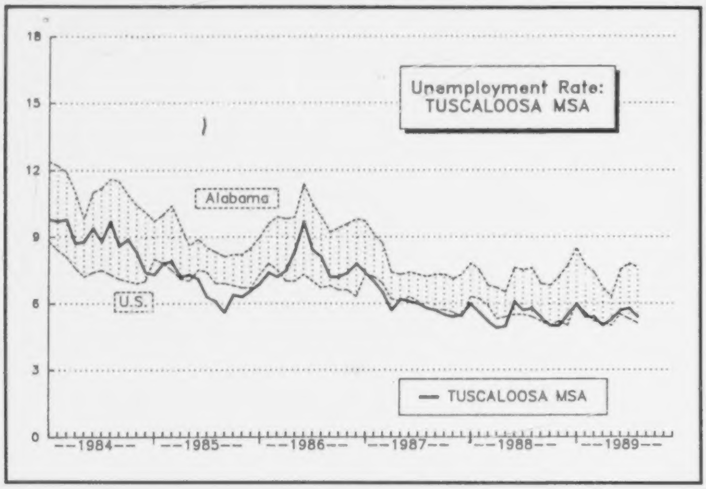
Montgomery's unemployment rate has risen for the last seven quarters. Nevertheless, the metropolitan statistical area's unemployment rate has remained below the average for that of the state for many years.



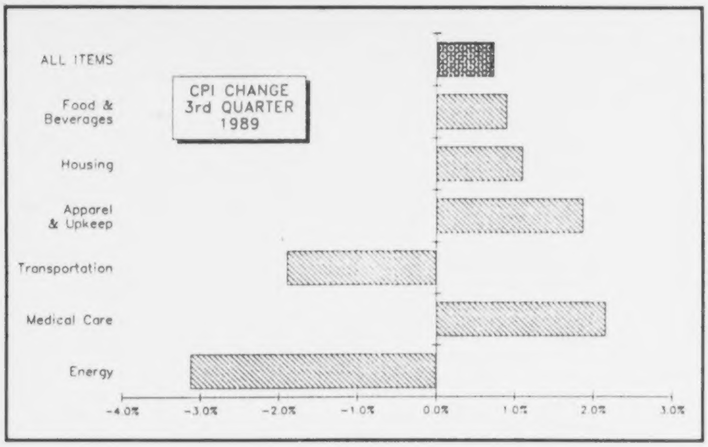
MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Tuscaloosa MSA

The Tuscaloosa MSA has the second lowest unemployment rate in the state. Tuscaloosa's rate has paralleled the national average since mid-1987.

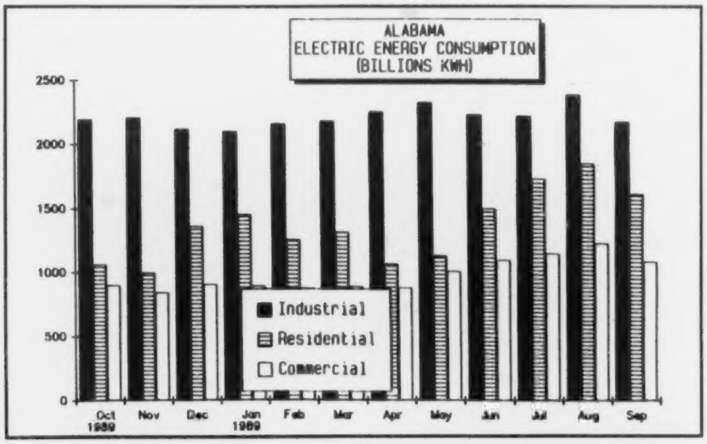


OTHER INDICATORS



National Consumer Price Index

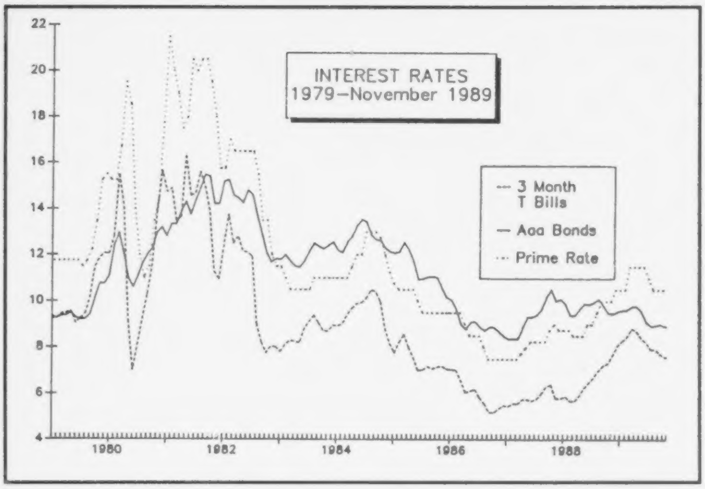
Petroleum prices affect both the energy and the transportation components of the CPI. Both those sectors showed negative increases in the third quarter of 1989, resulting in the overall CPI rising less than one percent.



Electrical Energy Consumption

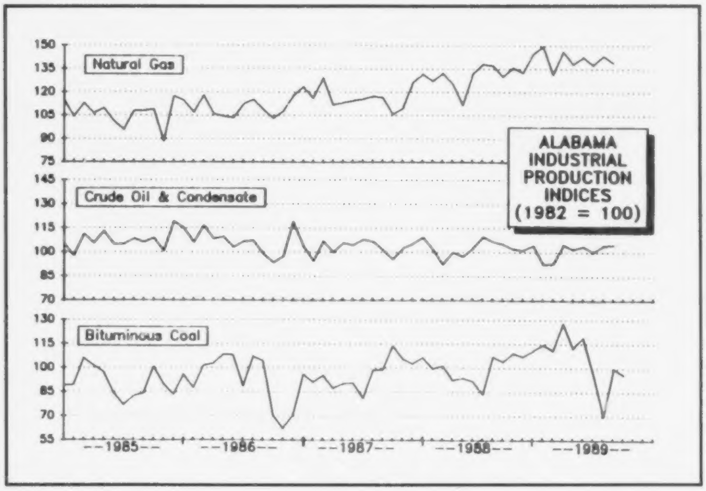
Alabama's industries use more than twice as much electricity as that used by the commercial sector. Residential consumption shows more seasonal differences than business and industry.

OTHER INDICATORS



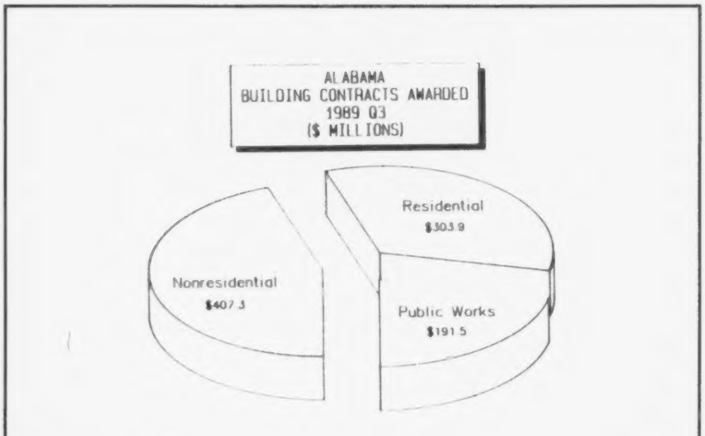
Interest Rates

Short term interest rates continue to hover around the eight percent mark with a slight decrease occurring since March. Historically, however, short term rates are still relatively high.



Alabama Industrial Production Indices

Coal production shows a seasonal low every year shortly after mid-year. Natural gas production has continued generally upward since mid-1988, although with a moderate drop in the first quarter of 1989. Crude oil and condensate production is not as variable as coal or natural gas production.



Alabama Building Contracts Awarded

The dollar amount of building contracts awarded during the third quarter of 1989 was up from the first quarter of the year. Public works's share of the pie continued to shrink although its dollar amount increased. Forty-five percent of third quarter contracts went to nonresidential projects; 34 percent to residential; and 21 percent to public works. The figures represent contracts for new construction and alterations combined.

OTHER INDICATORS

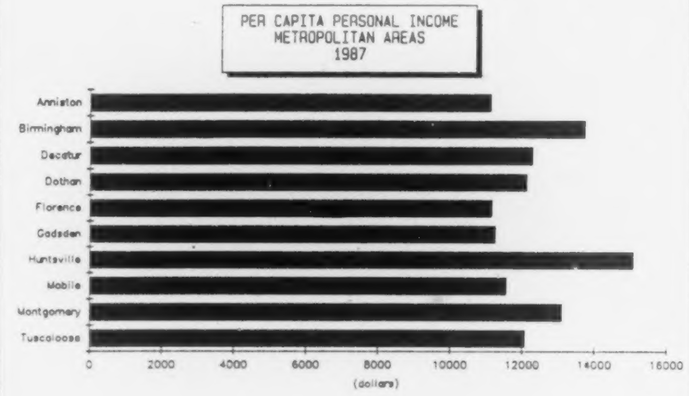
Total Personal Income

Total Personal Income

	1888			1989	
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
US	4,005,952	4,085,272	4,194,006	4,347,416	4,347,416
Percent Change	2.1%	2.0%	2.7%	2.1%	2.1%
Alabama	52,304	53,257	54,700	56,110	56,110
Share of nation	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%
Percent Change	4.2%	1.8%	2.7%	1.3%	1.3%
Southeast	840,096	857,667	878,441	914,884	914,884
Share of nation	21.0%	21.0%	20.9%	21.0%	21.0%
Percent change	3.2%	2.1%	2.4%	1.8%	1.8%

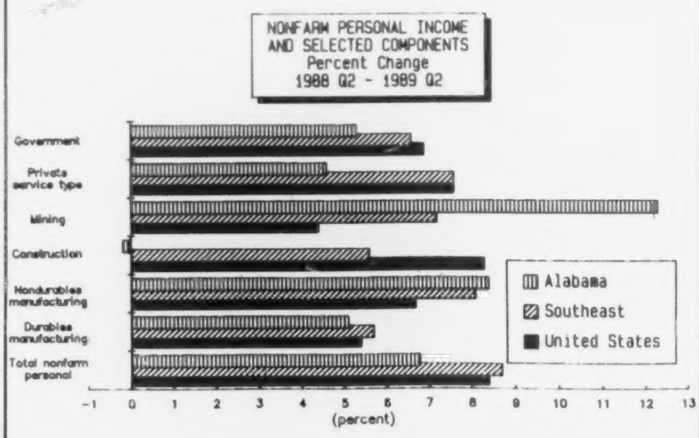
Total personal income is increasing, but at a lower rate than that for the region and the nation. The Southeast contains 20.9 percent of the nation's total personal income; Alabama accounts for 1.3 percent.

MSA Per Capita Personal Income



Huntsville's per capita personal income, at $15,082 in 1987, is the highest in the state. Birmingham, at $13,722, follows. The national average is $15,484 and the Alabama average is $11,947. Data for metropolitan areas for 1988 will not be released until the late spring of 1990.

Nonfarm Personal Income



Although mining is a small sector, income from mining has increased faster in Alabama than for the Southeast or for the nation between the second quarter of 1988 and the second quarter of 1989. Income from construction has actually fallen during that time. Nondurable goods, manufacturing and mining income increased faster in Alabama than in the region and the nation, while income in the remaining sectors increased more slowly in Alabama than for the region and the nation.

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988					1989							
	1987	1988	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Industrial															
Bituminous coal production[1] (1,000 net tons)	24,870	26,055	2,312	2,242	2,360	2,311	2,393	2,478	2,394	2,765	2,426	2,575	2,077	1,506	2,156
Natural gas production *(1,000,000 cu. ft.)*	155,990	176,008	15,290	14,497	15,160	14,782	16,141	16,717	14,672	16,342	15,407	15,937	15,340	16,020	15,498
Cotton consumption *(1,000 lbs.)*	483,311	482,002	46,253	43,208	41,496	39,776	37,268	41,932	39,300	45,356	41,760	49,634	48,418	38,372	54,234
Crude oil and condensate production[2] *(1,000 barrels)*	20,621	20,597	1,781	1,754	1,706	1,691	1,745	1,547	1,556	1,750	1,700	1,734	1,671	1,737	1,754
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	24,675	26,008	2,336	2,227	2,198	2,210	2,120	2,098	2,155	2,174	2,247	2,319	2,224	2,214	2,382
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production *(1,000 net tons)*	6,904	6,977	579	590	579	531	595	619	551	583	613	574	578	633	596
Construction															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] *($1,000)*	3,114,400	3,583,700	328,100	301,200	321,700	236,600	236,300	193,000	238,000	224,300	213,700	262,300	238,700	344,300	190,700
Residential	1,340,300	1,148,600	113,800	88,800	87,800	87,500	90,800	69,700	82,300	89,700	97,700	99,200	118,000	112,200	94,100
Nonresidential	1,009,700	1,450,300	92,200	81,500	93,300	93,600	78,400	107,600	57,400	89,300	62,300	112,700	86,100	136,900	53,100
Public works and utilities	764,300	984,900	122,000	131,000	140,700	55,500	67,100	15,600	98,300	45,500	53,600	50,400	34,600	95,100	43,500
Cement consumption *(1,000 net tons)*	1,401	1,398	129	111	126	115	111	93	76	111	123	126	100	106	134
Tax Collections															
Title of Tax *($1,000)*															
Total	3,052,983	3,184,030	268,782	274,317	242,778	270,761	255,829	271,830	260,683	333,788	330,038	342,359	283,213	249,133	276,960
Franchise	85,027	81,609	6,535	5,129	1,189	464	573	757	2,135	55,015	3,217	1,477	5,560	1,254	684
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	213,006	220,608	18,392	18,570	19,000	17,717	20,244	19,904	17,293	17,125	17,397	21,422	20,102	19,721	19,416
Income	1,249,376	1,296,181	125,306	112,966	65,791	120,789	106,266	86,088	133,760	138,344	150,169	184,870	128,874	66,919	132,451
Motor fuels	56,856	60,244	5,283	4,199	4,865	7,179	4,967	5,202	5,055	5,909	4,198	6,592	4,607	5,068	5,391
Oil/gas privilege	35,150	35,493	2,702	2,955	2,444	2,688	2,639	3,154	2,436	3,207	2,879	3,462	6,203	3,116	3,276
Oil/gas production	9,962	10,432	806	866	731	885	856	861	721	948	828	1,046	1,701	905	964
Sales	810,128	844,582	69,965	71,299	71,097	72,229	77,565	80,724	62,558	71,945	67,748	82,276	76,227	73,188	74,636
2.2% gross receipts	57,351	59,202	43	7	15,039	108	8	14,762	312	1	14,641	422	30	15,056	0
TVA electric	47,383	52,522	4,220	4,220	5,449	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545
Tobacco	72,605	71,847	5,892	5,984	6,261	5,650	6,477	5,596	5,359	5,499	5,962	6,082	6,225	5,935	5,877
Use	88,397	97,843	1,862	1,460	21,941	1,577	1,302	22,706	1,847	1,315	20,350	2,212	932	22,136	2,074
Utility	165,984	171,014	15,604	14,877	13,604	14,143	14,517	15,968	15,032	14,754	13,333	13,527	13,794	16,700	15,692
Prices															
Consumer Price Index, U.S. *(1982-84 = 100)*															
All items	113.6	118.3	119.0	119.8	120.2	120.3	120.5	121.1	121.6	122.3	123.1	123.8	124.1	124.4	124.6
Percent change	4.3	4.3	.4	.7	.3	.1	.2	.5	.4	.6	.7	.6	.2	.2	.2
Food	113.5	118.2	119.4	120.2	120.3	120.2	120.7	122.2	122.9	123.5	124.2	124.9	125.0	125.5	125.8
Housing	114.2	118.5	119.5	119.9	119.9	119.9	120.2	120.7	121.1	121.5	121.6	122.1	122.9	123.9	124.2
Fuel and utilities	103.0	104.4	106.1	106.4	105.4	104.3	105.0	106.0	105.9	105.9	106.2	107.0	109.2	109.7	109.7
Apparel and upkeep	110.6	115.4	112.6	117.8	120.7	119.9	118.0	115.3	115.3	119.3	120.9	120.4	117.8	115.0	115.0
Transportation	105.4	108.7	109.6	109.7	110.0	110.7	110.8	111.1	111.6	111.9	114.6	116.0	115.9	115.4	114.3
Medical care	130.1	138.6	139.9	140.4	141.2	141.8	142.3	143.8	145.2	146.1	146.8	147.5	148.5	149.7	150.7
Energy	88.6	89.3	92.3	91.9	89.9	88.9	88.7	89.0	89.3	89.8	94.9	97.4	99.0	98.5	97.0
Producer Price Index, U.S. *(1982 = 100)*															
All commodities	102.8	106.9	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	109.0	110.5	110.8	111.5	112.3	113.2	112.8	112.7	112.0
Industrial commodities	102.6	106.3	107.0	106.8	107.1	107.5	108.1	109.6	110.1	110.6	111.8	112.4	112.3	112.2	111.4
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S. As measured by															
Consumer prices *(1982-84 = $1.000)*	.880	.846	.840	.835	.832	.831	.830	.826	.822	.818	.812	.808	.806	.804	.803
Wholesale prices *(1982 = $1.000)*	.973	.935	.926	.925	.924	.923	.917	.905	.903	.897	.890	.883	.887	.887	.893
Labor Force and Employment[4]															
Civilian labor force *(1,000 workers)*	1,895.0	1,887.0	1,899.6	1,888.0	1,906.7	1,914.9	1,917.2	1,897.6	1,888.8	1,908.9	1,892.1	1,911.8	1,931.7	1,953.1	1,954.6
Unemployment	147.0	136.0	144.1	129.5	129.1	138.6	147.3	161.7	144.9	140.4	126.1	119.6	144.3	151.9	148.6
Unemployment rate	7.8	7.2	7.6	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.7	8.5	7.7	7.4	6.7	6.3	7.5	7.8	7.6
Employment	1,748.0	1,751.0	1,755.5	1,758.5	1,777.6	1,776.3	1,769.9	1,735.9	1,743.9	1,768.5	1,766.0	1,792.2	1,787.4	1,801.2	1,806.0
Nonagricultural	1,507.7	1,551.3	1,546.4	1,551.7	1,560.9	1,585.9	1,573.8	1,549.8	1,556.0	1,559.5	1,566.9	1,578.7	1,575.2	1,571.3	1,576.1
Manufacturing	368.8	378.9	380.1	380.2	380.7	382.0	380.6	381.0	383.8	382.7	385.3	385.7	387.4	383.0	387.7
Durable goods	178.0	184.4	184.5	185.3	186.8	187.2	187.0	186.9	187.5	187.0	188.6	189.2	189.0	187.0	188.9
Lumber and wood products	29.9	30.4	31.0	31.0	30.7	30.6	30.4	30.3	30.3	30.5	30.7	30.8	31.0	30.5	30.4
Stone, clay, glass products	9.7	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	9.9	10.0	9.9
Primary metals	25.5	27.0	27.1	27.4	27.6	27.7	27.8	27.9	28.1	28.0	28.2	28.2	28.3	27.5	27.8
Fabricated metals	22.0	21.5	21.5	21.3	21.3	21.3	21.2	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.6	21.6	21.5	21.5	21.5
Machinery (excl. electrical)	21.6	26.8	27.2	26.9	27.7	27.8	28.1	27.7	28.0	28.2	28.5	28.5	28.4	28.4	28.7
Electrical, electronic equip.	22.5	20.4	19.9	20.3	20.7	20.9	20.4	20.7	20.8	20.1	20.6	21.1	20.6	21.0	21.2
Transportation	28.6	29.5	28.9	29.4	29.7	29.7	29.9	29.9	29.9	29.7	29.8	30.3	30.6	29.8	31.2
Other durable goods	18.2	18.7	18.7	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.7	18.8	18.9	19.1	18.6	18.7	18.3	18.2
Nondurable goods	190.8	194.5	195.6	194.9	193.9	194.8	193.6	194.1	196.3	195.7	196.7	196.5	198.4	196.0	198.8
Food	31.2	32.2	32.9	32.6	32.8	32.8	32.6	32.6	33.0	32.7	33.6	33.8	34.4	34.9	35.1
Textile mill products	39.0	40.4	40.2	40.2	40.6	40.7	40.9	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.8	40.4	40.8	40.4	41.0
Apparel	55.9	56.2	56.9	56.3	55.1	55.0	54.2	54.9	56.5	56.0	56.2	56.3	57.0	54.6	56.0
Paper and allied products	21.1	21.1	21.2	21.1	20.8	21.7	21.3	21.1	20.9	21.0	20.9	21.1	21.4	21.5	21.9
Printing and publishing	12.7	12.7	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.8	13.0	13.1	13.2	13.2	13.0	13.0	12.9	12.8	12.8
Chemicals and allied products	11.2	11.1	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.4	11.4
Rubber products	17.5	18.6	18.6	18.9	18.7	18.4	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.5	18.4	18.2	18.1	17.9	18.1
Other nondurable goods	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Nonmanufacturing	1,138.9	1,172.4	1,166.3	1,171.5	1,180.2	1,203.9	1,193.2	1,168.8	1,172.2	1,176.8	1,181.6	1,193.0	1,187.8	1,188.3	1,188.4
Mining and quarrying	11.3	11.2	11.1	11.0	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.4	6.3	11.2
Bituminous coal mining	8.1	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	2.3	7.2
Contract construction	75.1	77.4	80.2	78.7	78.2	77.0	76.5	71.4	72.1	73.2	74.3	75.2	74.9	75.1	75.5
Trans., comm., and utilities	73.3	79.0	80.2	79.1	79.0	79.2	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.7	79.4	79.5	79.5	79.9	80.0
Trade	331.7	339.5	341.3	341.4	344.0	347.8	355.2	344.7	341.6	341.9	343.2	344.1	345.5	345.3	345.3
Wholesale	78.4	79.5	79.6	80.0	80.4	80.1	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.4	80.7	80.8	81.3	81.5	81.5
Retail	253.3	259.9	261.7	261.4	263.6	267.7	274.9	264.7	261.6	261.5	262.5	263.3	264.2	263.8	263.8
Finance, insurance, real estate	70.5	70.2	70.7	70.6	70.6	70.6	70.8	70.2	70.6	71.1	71.1	71.3	71.6	71.8	71.8
Service and miscellaneous	276.5	286.1	287.4	288.8	289.3	289.8	290.9	282.1	284.0	285.9	287.5	294.8	295.1	297.1	296.5
Government	300.6	308.9	295.4	301.9	307.8	328.1	309.4	309.8	313.3	313.7	314.8	316.8	309.8	312.8	308.1
Federal	65.9	65.6	65.1	64.7	65.0	64.9	64.2	63.8	63.9	63.8	63.9	64.2	65.1	65.2	65.3
State and local	234.7	243.4	230.3	237.2	242.8	263.2	245.2	246.0	249.4	249.9	250.9	252.6	244.7	247.6	242.8

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988					1989							
	1987	1988	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	224,282	240,540	23,546	22,664	21,985	20,729	16,488	24,750	19,639	23,116	17,324	22,609	25,182	26,475	
Nonagricultural placements	96,391	107,113	13,802	9,591	8,553	8,494	6,711	6,593	7,002	8,377	7,345	9,439	8,911	16,284	
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	349,204	348,271	30,583	21,909	24,517	25,161	28,031	59,343	23,782	24,455	19,828	23,235	25,370	46,377	
Payments *($1,000)*	165,953	140,632	12,315	10,195	9,492	11,406	12,412	16,421	13,471	15,505	11,260	11,636	12,656	13,367	
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	16,116 7.0	15,782 6.1	15,920 7.1	15,970 7.4	16,080 6.7	16,240 7.8	16,090 7.0	15,800 6.9	15,990 7.6	16,050 6.2	15,920 6.4	16,120 6.7	16,130 7.7	16,230 7.4	16,440 9.0
Baldwin	39,863 7.6	39,573 8.1	39,440 7.1	39,530 8.6	39,390 7.4	39,790 7.8	40,030 8.6	39,560 9.0	39,220 7.7	39,820 7.4	39,050 6.4	39,370 5.9	39,610 6.7	40,640 7.7	39,800 6.9
Barbour	11,648 8.0	12,091 7.5	12,220 8.6	12,130 7.3	12,320 7.0	12,430 7.0	12,370 7.4	12,300 10.1	12,140 8.5	12,380 7.8	12,170 7.1	12,150 6.7	12,260 8.0	12,350 8.1	12,410 8.1
Bibb	7,278 11.1	7,212 10.0	7,430 9.9	7,350 8.8	7,210 9.5	7,280 9.9	7,170 13.9	7,220 16.3	7,000 8.6	7,020 7.9	6,950 7.7	7,050 6.8	7,300 8.0	7,200 7.7	7,280 7.8
Blount	17,620 7.3	17,172 6.8	17,180 6.0	16,980 5.2	17,190 5.5	17,250 6.6	17,410 6.9	17,160 7.5	17,010 6.2	17,220 5.8	16,990 5.1	17,170 4.6	17,390 5.7	17,400 5.4	17,340 5.2
Bullock	3,801 14.4	4,405 13.5	4,460 15.7	4,380 13.7	4,460 13.2	4,540 13.3	4,410 13.4	4,390 14.3	4,220 11.6	4,220 11.8	4,230 11.3	4,220 10.2	4,420 14.2	4,650 15.0	4,690 14.6
Butler	9,599 10.6	9,266 10.4	9,460 11.4	9,190 11.0	9,230 12.2	9,470 13.8	9,280 13.3	9,140 15.9	9,160 15.8	9,150 12.8	8,970 11.7	8,920 11.2	9,450 16.3	9,420 14.4	9,390 14.6
Calhoun	51,596 7.8	52,094 7.3	52,190 8.8	52,050 6.7	52,140 6.2	52,490 6.7	52,810 7.0	52,400 8.4	51,980 7.3	51,430 7.6	51,870 7.6	52,470 6.1	53,020 7.3	53,660 8.1	53,520 7.1
Chambers	17,510 5.9	17,075 5.4	17,090 6.0	16,940 5.3	17,070 5.1	17,120 5.2	17,110 5.7	16,840 6.7	16,600 5.7	16,730 5.8	16,520 5.2	16,640 5.9	16,820 7.2	16,770 7.2	16,940 7.2
Cherokee	7,970 8.7	8,308 7.5	8,340 9.2	8,260 7.1	8,390 6.6	8,610 6.9	8,480 7.7	8,500 10.4	8,320 8.3	8,360 7.3	8,290 8.0	8,230 7.1	8,510 10.0	8,470 9.3	8,480 8.5
Chilton	15,588 9.5	14,836 7.9	14,710 8.0	14,830 7.7	14,920 7.3	15,200 8.4	15,000 9.5	15,090 10.1	14,890 8.1	14,790 7.7	14,800 7.3	14,900 6.7	15,080 8.0	15,350 9.5	15,320 9.0
Choctaw	7,003 10.0	7,078 9.5	7,180 9.2	6,980 8.6	7,030 9.3	7,390 10.8	7,060 10.5	7,130 12.7	7,000 11.0	6,960 10.1	6,910 9.7	7,010 8.9	7,140 9.8	7,250 10.2	7,170 9.6
Clarke	11,461 11.2	11,513 10.6	11,550 10.5	11,470 9.6	11,330 8.3	11,460 8.5	11,630 11.2	11,510 12.7	11,320 11.0	11,340 10.3	11,070 8.6	11,160 7.9	11,540 10.7	11,500 10.1	11,380 8.9
Clay	6,146 8.9	6,152 7.7	6,180 9.1	6,130 7.4	6,210 6.7	6,240 5.8	6,230 6.6	6,240 7.3	6,270 6.8	6,510 14.8	6,380 5.7	6,500 6.7	6,430 8.2	6,600 7.9	6,670 7.4
Cleburne	5,431 7.2	5,433 6.5	5,430 6.6	5,410 5.7	5,710 4.5	5,830 4.5	5,640 5.5	5,610 9.2	5,490 6.9	5,640 6.4	5,740 7.3	5,770 4.8	5,830 5.5	5,870 7.3	5,760 6.2
Coffee	17,960 6.3	18,068 6.5	18,000 6.5	17,810 6.1	18,260 6.3	18,320 7.1	18,080 7.3	18,010 7.3	18,000 6.2	18,300 5.9	18,100 5.4	18,070 5.2	18,410 5.9	18,890 6.7	18,900 5.9
Colbert	23,872 10.2	23,713 9.2	23,680 9.6	23,540 8.2	23,950 9.1	24,020 9.4	24,220 10.5	24,050 12.6	23,940 11.5	24,280 11.5	23,850 9.5	23,950 8.6	24,110 9.5	24,570 10.8	24,650 10.6
Conecuh	6,009 16.0	5,623 10.9	5,540 10.4	5,530 10.2	5,590 9.3	5,770 9.9	5,710 12.6	5,660 12.3	5,540 11.4	5,560 10.8	5,510 9.7	5,520 8.6	5,580 11.5	5,620 10.1	5,670 10.1
Coosa	4,988 5.5	4,952 6.2	4,950 6.4	4,960 5.8	5,030 5.5	5,010 7.2	4,960 8.1	4,890 8.2	4,850 7.4	4,940 7.7	4,970 5.8	4,960 5.6	5,050 6.7	5,080 6.3	5,150 6.3
Covington	17,413 7.5	17,374 7.8	17,320 7.7	17,070 7.3	17,480 9.4	17,890 9.1	18,060 9.4	17,800 9.5	17,560 8.4	17,650 7.9	17,420 6.5	17,580 5.9	17,760 7.0	18,190 8.0	18,180 7.1
Crenshaw	6,538 9.2	6,777 7.0	6,880 6.6	6,820 6.4	6,990 5.8	7,120 7.0	6,900 7.4	6,920 9.1	6,810 7.0	6,930 6.5	6,850 6.1	6,920 5.9	7,050 7.3	7,170 7.2	7,340 7.2
Cullman	31,713 7.7	32,049 7.3	32,300 7.5	32,260 6.7	32,610 6.8	33,060 7.3	32,770 7.7	32,580 8.7	31,990 7.6	32,420 7.1	32,270 5.9	32,610 5.5	32,980 6.1	33,470 6.4	33,590 6.4
Dale	17,831 7.5	17,971 7.8	17,940 7.8	17,920 7.6	18,230 8.3	18,290 8.4	18,420 8.6	18,130 8.9	18,010 8.1	18,310 8.2	18,180 7.0	18,500 7.4	18,610 8.1	18,620 7.4	18,860 7.9
Dallas	21,371 14.6	20,411 12.1	20,630 12.9	20,270 12.2	20,480 11.4	20,470 11.4	20,350 11.9	20,140 12.5	19,970 12.1	20,090 11.3	19,900 10.8	20,030 10.6	20,470 12.5	21,060 13.6	20,950 13.7
DeKalb	29,014 7.8	29,821 7.3	30,150 7.4	29,650 6.8	30,320 6.7	30,670 7.3	30,410 7.8	30,170 9.1	29,830 8.4	30,470 8.4	30,230 7.0	30,170 6.0	31,020 6.8	32,070 7.1	32,160 6.9
Elmore	21,000 5.9	21,508 5.8	21,460 5.7	21,450 5.7	21,710 5.5	21,830 6.1	21,760 5.9	21,430 6.1	21,590 6.3	21,860 5.9	21,540 5.3	21,800 5.6	21,710 6.3	21,860 6.0	21,750 5.9
Escambia	16,782 10.4	16,373 9.7	16,370 9.9	16,230 8.8	16,450 8.6	16,730 10.2	16,530 11.0	16,380 11.8	16,200 10.4	16,350 9.6	16,100 9.5	16,100 8.8	16,520 9.9	16,790 9.2	16,810 9.4
Etowah	43,120 9.2	42,183 8.4	42,470 7.9	42,540 8.4	42,540 8.1	42,850 9.8	42,710 10.2	42,330 11.4	42,080 10.1	42,800 10.2	42,030 7.9	42,490 7.8	43,100 9.5	43,810 9.5	44,220 10.1
Fayette	7,636 10.6	7,478 8.1	7,350 7.1	7,530 7.3	7,540 7.0	7,680 7.8	7,570 8.0	7,620 10.2	7,670 10.2	7,650 7.9	7,630 8.1	7,680 7.5	7,780 8.1	7,740 12.4	7,990 9.9
Franklin	15,130 10.1	14,549 10.8	14,810 10.5	14,390 8.8	14,660 14.2	14,760 13.5	14,690 11.8	14,670 13.2	14,510 12.3	14,770 11.4	14,510 10.6	14,800 9.4	15,230 10.3	15,760 12.7	15,310 11.4
Geneva	10,443 6.2	10,563 5.5	10,390 5.2	10,580 5.5	11,000 5.8	10,960 5.5	10,800 5.9	10,740 6.3	10,640 5.6	10,740 5.3	10,690 5.0	10,670 4.1	10,980 5.3	11,290 6.3	11,080 5.5
Greene	3,743 15.3	3,646 11.8	3,660 12.5	3,590 9.3	3,630 9.2	3,780 10.1	3,650 11.0	3,750 14.5	3,650 11.9	3,660 11.5	3,610 10.7	3,590 9.3	3,830 13.0	3,890 11.6	3,970 16.7
Hale	6,105 8.2	6,067 7.8	6,040 7.9	6,010 7.0	6,120 6.5	6,380 7.7	6,240 8.4	6,280 10.8	6,150 8.3	6,250 8.0	6,130 7.0	6,200 7.1	6,340 8.7	6,390 8.3	6,390 8.3
Henry	6,766 6.6	6,960 6.2	6,950 7.7	7,000 6.1	7,110 5.2	7,370 5.7	7,120 5.6	7,070 7.7	6,890 6.9	6,890 6.5	6,720 6.0	6,690 5.4	6,740 6.6	6,890 7.7	6,880 6.4
Houston	40,014 5.8	40,337 5.5	40,440 5.9	40,300 5.5	40,540 5.1	40,730 5.3	40,920 5.3	40,630 6.5	40,350 5.6	40,930 5.5	40,810 4.7	41,300 4.5	41,740 5.7	41,940 5.4	42,260 5.3
Jackson	20,929 9.4	20,804 12.0	20,620 13.8	20,520 12.7	20,430 12.8	20,580 13.3	20,790 14.7	21,150 17.2	20,620 15.0	20,680 13.5	20,610 12.4	20,710 10.2	21,170 12.1	21,180 11.5	21,290 10.6
Jefferson	338,868 6.6	331,653 5.8	336,810 6.5	333,320 5.8	335,940 5.6	333,140 5.6	335,760 5.7	330,350 6.2	330,160 5.6	334,580 5.5	332,120 5.2	336,640 5.1	339,940 5.9	341,690 6.0	341,740 6.1
Lamar	8,675 6.9	8,518 6.2	8,350 5.7	8,510 6.6	8,540 6.1	8,810 6.0	8,590 5.9	8,540 7.1	8,460 6.1	8,690 6.5	8,600 6.8	8,590 6.4	8,720 7.6	8,940 11.9	8,830 8.2
Lauderdale	36,490 8.2	36,645 7.5	37,000 8.9	36,540 6.9	36,830 6.9	36,820 7.0	37,330 8.6	36,530 9.4	36,630 9.0	36,980 8.5	36,610 7.3	37,090 7.1	37,310 7.9	37,650 8.4	37,590 7.8
Lawrence	11,918 12.7	12,687 10.5	13,070 13.3	12,530 9.2	12,590 9.1	12,640 9.3	13,000 12.2	13,130 14.1	12,880 12.9	12,860 12.4	12,650 9.8	12,890 9.6	13,470 13.7	13,760 13.9	13,620 12.8

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988					1989							
	1987	1988	Aug.	Sept	Oct	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb	Mar.	Apr	May	June	July	Aug.
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT															
Lee	38,259 5.4	38,786 5.1	38,990 5.5	39,150 5.0	39,750 4.9	39,700 5.0	39,500 5.0	39,030 5.0	39,180 4.4	39,750 4.4	39,440 3.7	40,170 4.0	39,860 5.3	39,940 5.0	40,650 5.1
Limestone	30,096 6.5	30,997 6.1	30,560 7.6	31,510 5.0	32,040 5.1	32,210 6.0	31,450 6.5	31,100 7.8	30,750 6.9	30,590 6.4	30,420 5.5	30,670 5.0	30,630 7.1	30,150 8.7	31,250 6.4
Lowndes	4,688 19.3	5,347 14.3	5,780 14.3	5,790 11.7	5,860 11.1	6,050 11.2	5,960 11.7	5,960 13.7	6,230 12.6	6,390 11.7	6,450 10.7	6,530 10.4	6,770 13.6	7,050 14.5	7,020 13.2
Macon	10,563 6.7	10,389 7.6	10,430 8.3	10,320 7.2	10,380 7.2	10,400 7.6	10,280 7.8	10,270 9.4	10,180 8.1	10,190 7.0	10,010 6.3	10,130 6.4	9,980 7.6	10,340 7.5	10,810 8.1
Madison	130,399 5.2	132,750 5.1	134,090 5.5	134,170 5.0	135,130 4.7	134,880 5.1	136,170 5.3	133,930 5.7	133,930 5.3	135,050 5.0	134,840 4.5	137,550 4.2	139,230 5.4	139,440 5.4	140,140 5.6
Marengo	9,838 8.4	9,588 7.2	9,600 7.1	9,510 6.6	9,610 6.2	9,760 6.6	9,740 8.1	9,420 8.5	9,370 7.6	9,460 7.2	9,380 6.7	9,490 6.5	9,770 8.0	9,860 8.1	9,720 7.5
Marion	15,548 10.7	15,624 8.5	15,770 6.5	15,550 7.1	15,610 7.6	15,650 8.5	15,320 9.2	15,680 12.9	15,200 9.3	15,280 8.6	15,220 9.2	15,400 9.0	15,680 11.5	16,020 13.9	15,850 12.8
Marshall	37,288 7.9	38,209 7.8	38,400 7.0	38,220 6.1	38,500 6.4	39,540 10.0	38,930 8.4	38,890 9.4	38,600 8.4	38,620 8.0	38,430 6.4	39,130 5.8	39,600 7.2	40,330 7.8	40,090 6.9
Mobile	172,319 9.7	169,208 9.2	170,640 9.3	167,700 8.9	169,030 8.8	171,310 9.5	172,480 10.4	170,570 10.9	170,930 10.5	172,520 9.7	170,030 9.1	170,740 8.3	172,510 9.5	174,660 9.3	173,080 9.5
Monroe	9,708 11.7	9,641 9.8	9,680 9.3	9,510 7.8	9,810 9.6	9,950 10.4	9,790 10.6	9,840 12.1	9,780 12.0	9,970 12.2	9,730 10.8	9,810 9.9	9,850 10.7	10,010 10.3	9,910 10.9
Montgomery	100,183 6.5	99,398 6.3	99,670 6.7	98,910 6.0	100,060 5.7	100,460 6.2	100,250 6.2	99,320 6.9	99,120 6.2	100,700 6.1	99,410 5.8	100,580 6.0	100,560 7.0	102,020 7.4	101,650 7.5
Morgan	46,674 8.5	46,803 7.6	47,670 9.4	46,610 7.0	46,690 6.6	47,060 7.2	47,720 8.8	46,970 8.5	46,400 7.9	47,120 9.0	46,520 6.5	47,290 6.2	48,670 9.0	49,530 8.9	48,820 7.2
Perry	5,363 11.8	5,608 10.1	5,660 9.4	5,610 7.8	5,730 7.2	6,050 10.2	5,960 17.8	5,860 16.9	5,780 11.1	5,810 9.4	5,700 7.4	5,780 7.8	5,800 9.1	6,020 9.2	6,060 9.2
Pickens	7,268 11.2	7,168 10.2	7,110 10.1	7,140 8.3	7,250 8.2	7,360 8.0	7,330 9.6	7,330 11.9	7,190 10.8	7,270 10.0	7,150 10.0	7,210 8.9	7,320 11.7	7,380 10.2	7,480 9.9
Pike	12,545 7.0	12,639 6.2	12,210 7.3	12,880 6.7	13,080 5.6	13,160 5.7	12,580 7.0	12,990 6.8	12,900 5.9	13,140 6.1	12,970 5.3	13,170 5.3	12,980 6.6	13,060 6.5	13,150 6.8
Randolph	9,586 6.4	9,341 6.7	9,290 9.5	9,200 7.6	9,600 6.4	9,580 5.3	9,610 6.4	9,530 7.2	9,370 6.3	9,520 6.5	9,320 5.8	9,330 5.9	9,400 7.5	9,370 8.9	9,530 8.9
Russell	22,475 7.1	23,306 6.3	23,330 5.4	23,240 5.5	24,090 8.1	23,270 6.4	23,520 6.3	22,850 6.2	22,960 5.8	23,080 5.1	22,980 4.6	23,340 4.6	23,540 5.5	23,730 5.9	23,500 5.2
St Clair	21,388 6.0	21,522 6.0	21,710 6.0	21,550 5.6	21,750 5.5	21,670 6.0	21,940 6.6	21,730 7.6	21,640 6.8	22,110 7.3	21,740 6.2	21,820 5.2	22,050 6.0	22,150 6.1	21,990 5.5
Shelby	40,103 5.0	40,287 4.6	40,710 4.7	40,410 4.3	40,690 4.0	40,640 4.8	40,970 4.9	40,530 5.9	40,330 4.9	40,840 4.6	40,390 4.1	40,960 3.9	41,490 5.0	41,830 5.5	41,500 4.8
Sumter	5,919 12.6	5,585 10.0	5,600 11.5	5,690 8.8	5,730 7.1	5,830 7.7	5,690 9.4	5,750 10.8	5,640 7.7	5,750 8.1	5,650 7.6	5,700 7.2	6,090 11.8	6,250 10.7	6,230 10.8
Talladega	32,228 9.6	31,840 10.0	32,260 10.9	31,980 9.6	32,140 9.6	32,110 10.3	32,500 10.6	31,920 12.3	31,810 11.3	32,090 10.5	31,880 9.7	32,020 9.1	32,290 11.1	33,420 13.2	33,420 10.8
Tallapoosa	18,992 6.5	18,483 6.3	18,590 6.5	18,340 5.6	18,700 6.1	18,670 6.0	18,570 5.8	18,440 7.2	18,290 5.7	18,520 5.7	18,510 5.8	18,720 5.0	18,940 6.4	19,130 6.7	19,300 6.9
Tuscaloosa	69,623 6.1	70,020 5.4	69,840 5.8	70,530 5.4	71,660 5.0	71,540 5.0	71,870 5.5	70,880 6.0	70,920 5.4	72,000 5.4	71,680 5.0	72,400 5.3	71,250 5.7	72,080 5.8	72,460 5.4
Walker	28,983 11.0	28,521 9.1	28,620 8.7	28,800 9.5	28,990 9.2	28,910 9.7	29,290 10.3	29,190 11.9	29,070 11.1	29,250 10.3	29,590 11.8	29,070 8.8	29,020 8.5	29,370 9.3	30,990 14.1
Washington	5,719 13.4	6,583 11.0	6,610 12.5	6,660 12.3	6,740 11.6	6,900 12.0	6,950 14.1	7,000 14.2	6,950 13.4	6,990 13.2	6,750 10.3	6,800 9.0	6,870 10.5	7,040 11.9	6,940 10.5
Wilcox	4,407 12.6	4,243 12.1	4,190 13.0	4,210 12.3	4,200 10.5	4,480 12.0	4,350 15.3	4,200 16.7	4,260 17.7	4,270 16.0	4,090 12.6	4,210 12.3	4,360 15.8	4,350 16.4	4,420 16.1
Winston	9,883 13.9	10,401 10.8	10,620 8.6	10,400 8.0	10,610 11.2	10,710 10.6	10,510 11.9	10,600 14.1	10,460 14.9	10,370 10.8	10,350 8.6	10,490 7.8	10,550 9.4	10,850 11.1	10,890 11.7
TRADE															
Foreign															
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[5] *(1,000 tons)*	29,363	32,684	2,661	2,701	3,970	2,668	2,646	3,123	2,788	3,067	2,736	3,752	2,633	3,585	2,969
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, non-industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	28,038	28,507	3,123	2,582	1,966	1,820	2,263	2,338	2,120	2,193	1,938	2,128	2,583	2,870	3,070
Gasoline sales[6] *(1,000 gallons)*	2,084,218	2,072,236	175,002	179,095	155,015	190,201	186,652	161,069	158,657	162,351	199,546	186,328	182,508	179,530	...
New passenger car registrations[7] *(number)*	140,070	133,614	11,045	11,502	10,571	10,060	11,594	9,256	8,572	9,762	10,212	8,082	7,282	7,599	12,782
Taxable retail sales by kind of business, state totals[8] *($1,000,000)*															
Food	4,093	4,127	347	349	344	338	372	342	331	352	351	347	362	356	347
General merchandise	2,862	3,047	247	236	253	294	413	198	197	254	257	256	250	242	245
Apparel	853	933	81	76	79	90	141	52	53	88	69	70	71	68	81
Furniture, furnishings, etc	977	1,030	85	87	81	91	127	75	70	81	79	82	85	82	80
Automotive	4,018	4,232	387	344	321	301	331	304	305	388	360	389	386	368	406
Gasoline service stations	286	295	27	24	24	23	26	25	22	26	25	26	27	27	28
Lumber and building materials	1,677	1,713	156	148	152	134	135	116	104	137	148	155	139	142	152
Hardware and farm implements	228	234	20	19	19	18	22	17	15	20	20	21	21	19	23
Eating places	1,791	1,914	168	160	163	156	174	150	146	172	169	173	179	176	166
Drug stores	391	418	33	33	32	32	48	39	34	35	36	33	31	31	31
All other retail	1,533	1,641	128	128	132	148	234	130	125	139	124	133	126	118	125
Total sales by retail concerns	18,709	19,584	1,678	1,605	1,602	1,626	2,022	1,449	1,403	1,691	1,639	1,684	1,678	1,628	1,686
Nonretail & unclassified concerns	3,160	3,414	312	308	289	282	306	279	275	297	284	309	306	290	319
Total all sales at retail	21,868	22,998	1,990	1,913	1,891	1,908	2,328	1,728	1,678	1,988	1,923	1,994	1,984	1,919	2,005

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988					1989							
	1987	1988	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
TRADE CONTINUED															
Taxable retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[8] *($1,000)*															
MSAs															
Anniston	602,268	625,346	55,310	53,145	51,188	52,088	60,771	45,249	43,202	52,310	50,007	52,294	52,182	53,112	50,334
Birmingham	5,797,096	5,901,230	512,934	497,164	475,327	455,732	567,954	451,924	434,120	500,525	483,076	497,348	496,308	470,036	499,287
Decatur	649,766	685,548	60,496	56,214	57,789	56,794	68,577	50,116	46,029	56,579	56,325	58,598	57,288	56,013	57,755
Dothan	696,013	710,885	60,850	58,957	57,310	58,859	70,121	58,945	59,077	70,892	66,347	68,150	70,192	65,786	73,837
Florence	718,517	766,216	67,313	62,740	64,147	65,309	82,599	62,269	58,377	74,093	71,244	75,509	73,227	71,722	74,677
Gadsden	524,919	557,115	48,916	44,573	43,817	44,746	57,467	39,185	37,188	47,849	45,376	47,674	46,713	40,442	46,192
Huntsville	1,302,226	1,350,848	115,396	108,743	108,528	110,044	131,496	117,162	110,305	133,033	126,411	132,487	131,503	130,058	136,576
Mobile	2,312,321	2,355,643	204,058	192,002	190,968	183,069	227,160	201,453	189,930	222,071	216,488	220,381	223,094	226,842	225,610
Montgomery	1,719,824	1,778,433	154,686	148,273	140,614	144,488	180,691	153,469	143,522	175,569	164,708	169,904	168,243	164,312	169,742
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,898	67,891	64,040	62,316	63,326	76,573	60,892	59,713	63,288	63,003	67,013	69,115	64,600	69,119
Counties															
Autauga	122,285	128,956	12,021	10,745	10,532	9,853	11,714	13,180	12,250	14,096	14,617	14,733	15,143	14,558	14,857
Baldwin	374,180	390,281	36,794	31,613	30,940	27,608	32,982	35,362	33,968	43,471	43,655	44,774	47,817	50,015	47,142
Barbour	84,828	86,298	7,242	7,496	7,029	6,843	8,442	6,729	6,555	7,806	7,891	7,667	7,723	7,419	7,660
Bibb	51,658	51,762	4,638	4,367	4,361	4,647	4,431	3,436	3,306	3,719	3,864	3,806	3,958	3,655	3,763
Blount	110,515	114,936	10,029	9,633	9,663	10,085	10,506	8,460	8,258	10,051	9,867	10,531	9,892	9,601	9,933
Bullock	25,271	23,569	1,703	1,829	1,855	1,939	2,502	1,783	1,683	2,088	1,799	1,765	1,782	1,707	1,702
Butler	62,697	61,508	5,337	5,088	4,940	4,667	5,722	4,748	4,319	5,149	5,031	5,074	4,772	4,804	5,163
Calhoun	602,268	625,346	55,310	53,145	51,188	52,088	60,771	45,249	43,202	52,310	50,007	52,294	52,182	53,112	50,334
Chambers	125,636	124,862	11,064	10,137	10,104	10,164	10,431	9,832	9,882	11,460	11,293	11,397	11,756	11,109	11,439
Cherokee	51,230	54,698	4,773	4,356	4,400	4,552	4,641	4,965	4,897	5,933	6,005	5,942	6,037	5,577	6,065
Chilton	122,615	133,495	11,887	10,349	10,743	11,112	11,897	8,977	8,842	10,744	11,037	11,260	10,491	10,867	11,371
Choctaw	38,404	37,126	2,934	3,139	2,973	3,034	3,580	2,741	2,772	3,199	3,030	3,063	3,217	2,901	3,025
Clarke	104,604	105,838	9,279	9,081	8,513	8,297	9,759	7,727	7,589	8,710	8,931	8,995	9,123	8,732	8,717
Clay	31,968	32,924	3,061	2,600	2,835	2,603	3,032	2,834	2,769	2,921	2,708	3,001	3,003	2,773	3,170
Cleburne	26,929	28,828	2,850	2,523	2,439	2,302	2,639	2,620	2,203	2,716	2,365	3,030	2,404	2,738	3,009
Coffee	211,223	207,076	17,951	18,013	16,651	17,344	18,070	14,145	15,800	17,180	15,878	18,753	17,598	16,513	17,090
Colbert	293,782	315,529	29,082	26,075	27,647	26,715	30,599	27,596	25,916	31,022	30,403	32,240	30,906	30,085	33,234
Conecuh	32,476	29,652	2,438	2,725	2,199	2,533	2,694	3,095	2,499	3,012	2,837	2,857	2,600	2,879	2,793
Coosa	12,707	13,545	1,275	1,095	1,049	1,488	1,167	990	1,051	1,316	1,305	1,232	1,138	1,167	1,232
Covington	142,938	142,705	12,516	12,519	11,316	11,468	12,715	12,498	12,670	14,585	14,860	15,461	14,659	14,269	13,793
Crenshaw	40,376	41,014	3,608	3,757	3,461	3,358	3,781	3,502	3,553	4,048	3,413	3,691	3,346	3,604	3,722
Cullman	269,229	280,223	24,835	23,820	23,349	21,720	25,867	22,818	21,578	26,416	27,000	28,725	27,018	25,515	26,043
Dale	121,169	127,693	11,162	11,063	11,047	10,129	11,740	11,267	10,656	12,755	11,843	12,809	13,273	13,058	14,308
Dallas	219,565	218,695	19,243	17,761	17,683	18,142	19,965	15,234	14,780	17,778	17,486	18,710	16,894	16,525	17,708
DeKalb	212,053	227,287	19,883	19,279	19,196	18,392	20,800	15,050	14,937	18,301	18,304	18,504	18,838	18,002	19,195
Elmore	111,814	116,897	9,773	9,802	9,123	8,770	10,391	11,444	11,100	13,448	13,286	13,399	13,122	13,324	12,316
Escambia	136,495	138,394	12,719	11,853	10,84[illegible]	10,578	13,144	9,315	9,258	10,822	11,520	11,251	11,044	10,511	11,045
Etowah	524,919	557,115	48,916	44,573	43,817	44,746	57,467	39,185	37,188	47,849	45,376	47,674	46,713	40,442	46,192
Fayette	66,589	65,808	5,545	5,357	5,284	5,191	6,907	4,450	4,431	5,443	4,745	5,272	5,269	5,262	5,384
Franklin	108,599	114,120	9,988	9,587	9,515	9,461	10,962	7,874	7,328	9,332	9,333	9,200	9,190	8,607	8,921
Geneva	131,414	119,894	10,029	9,858	9,801	11,414	10,724	4,640	4,484	5,200	5,029	5,104	4,968	4,597	5,370
Greene	18,730	19,750	1,842	1,764	1,532	1,642	1,583	1,805	1,726	2,007	2,076	2,037	1,867	2,114	2,258
Hale	30,315	29,357	2,576	2,533	2,502	2,415	2,573	2,565	2,505	2,822	2,871	3,187	2,804	2,981	3,140
Henry	41,338	43,945	3,722	4,055	3,958	3,958	4,308	3,290	3,557	3,730	3,605	3,532	3,873	3,102	4,073
Houston	574,844	583,192	49,688	47,894	46,263	48,730	58,381	47,678	48,421	58,137	54,504	55,341	56,919	52,728	59,529
Jackson	166,029	175,787	15,092	15,257	15,973	14,546	16,264	12,903	12,455	16,111	15,884	18,633	16,710	14,515	15,913
Jefferson	4,822,225	4,873,501	422,787	412,456	391,205	373,307	476,475	371,915	353,934	405,731	387,062	402,265	397,938	378,146	402,649
Lamar	37,102	34,236	2,963	2,831	2,746	2,847	3,454	2,887	2,783	3,517	3,316	3,394	3,149	3,073	3,226
Lauderdale	424,735	450,687	38,231	36,665	36,500	38,594	52,000	34,673	32,461	43,071	40,841	43,269	42,321	41,637	41,443
Lawrence	65,221	68,188	5,957	5,408	5,670	5,718	6,937	5,270	4,970	6,153	6,135	6,414	5,968	5,618	6,025
Lee	403,068	422,058	34,437	35,458	35,292	38,827	41,821	33,243	30,884	37,405	37,614	35,779	36,648	35,563	36,973
Limestone	195,876	203,248	17,798	16,253	17,330	15,721	19,465	15,893	14,881	18,500	18,310	19,778	18,833	17,574	18,491
Lowndes	21,658	22,210	1,767	2,023	1,597	1,845	2,448	1,649	1,776	2,151	1,914	2,050	2,203	1,874	2,050
Macon	53,662	50,108	4,466	4,254	3,541	3,492	3,920	4,853	4,834	5,659	5,312	5,491	5,563	5,583	6,098
Madison	1,302,226	1,350,848	115,396	108,743	108,528	110,044	131,496	117,162	110,305	133,033	126,411	132,487	131,503	130,058	136,576
Marengo	81,060	82,743	7,280	7,308	7,185	7,203	7,685	6,830	6,930	8,164	7,886	8,017	7,817	7,757	7,967
Marion	110,875	115,332	9,837	9,637	9,471	9,812	10,994	9,107	8,174	10,387	10,498	10,476	10,679	10,229	11,224
Marshall	427,632	447,551	39,374	36,949	36,117	37,279	42,237	32,262	31,383	40,105	39,872	41,962	39,849	38,715	40,759
Mobile	1,938,141	1,965,362	167,264	160,389	160,028	155,461	194,178	166,091	155,962	178,600	172,833	175,607	175,277	176,827	178,468
Monroe	73,217	78,198	6,706	6,594	6,267	6,805	7,603	7,439	7,316	9,298	8,343	8,898	8,385	9,018	9,604
Montgomery	1,485,725	1,532,580	132,892	127,726	120,959	125,865	158,586	128,845	120,172	148,025	136,805	141,772	139,978	136,430	142,569
Morgan	584,545	617,360	54,539	50,806	52,119	51,076	61,640	44,846	41,059	50,426	50,190	52,184	51,320	50,395	51,730
Perry	23,734	22,644	1,873	2,116	1,676	1,738	2,173	1,977	1,945	2,545	2,079	2,113	2,044	2,079	2,188
Pickens	42,458	42,029	3,672	3,226	3,340	3,453	3,925	3,771	3,692	4,462	4,518	4,658	4,511	4,035	4,457
Pike	115,053	118,110	9,979	10,665	9,646	9,346	10,804	11,383	10,418	12,422	11,628	11,503	12,112	11,006	12,277
Randolph	59,796	61,298	4,875	5,172	5,158	4,673	6,585	5,554	5,212	6,503	6,223	6,471	6,406	5,861	6,230
Russell	131,628	131,576	11,545	10,373	10,453	10,544	12,683	11,212	11,381	13,576	13,941	14,593	13,970	13,266	13,083
St. Clair	151,136	151,410	13,025	12,586	11,919	11,647	13,950	10,816	11,448	13,523	13,729	13,492	14,117	12,448	13,453
Shelby	349,404	372,773	32,538	30,549	31,071	29,489	31,315	32,699	32,837	39,112	39,541	38,713	39,699	38,282	39,652
Sumter	32,578	33,466	2,795	2,621	2,988	2,991	3,093	2,957	2,764	3,427	3,087	3,200	3,221	2,946	3,221
Talladega	299,552	322,964	27,250	26,730	25,697	24,737	30,181	26,750	26,369	32,811	29,686	34,787	31,128	32,749	31,229
Tallapoosa	152,999	156,650	13,179	12,597	12,389	12,758	13,812	9,891	9,399	11,688	11,616	12,434	12,354	12,220	12,493
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,898	67,891	64,040	62,316	63,326	76,573	60,892	59,713	63,288	63,003	67,013	69,115	64,600	69,119
Walker	363,816	388,610	34,555	31,940	31,469	31,204	35,708	28,034	27,643	32,108	32,877	32,347	34,662	31,559	33,600
Washington	22,573	22,114	1,657	1,687	1,791	1,648	1,834	1,902	1,854	2,119	2,439	2,150	2,090	2,251	2,126
Wilcox	23,251	20,469	1,692	1,594	1,696	1,714	2,1[illegible]4	2,146	1,986	2,378	2,173	2,127	2,118	2,044	1,982
Winston	92,401	97,344	8,842	7,842	8,268	7,858	8,956	6,736	6,121	6,977	7,781	8,400	8,090	8,095	8,454
Statewide[6]	1,839,693	2,407,251	201,655	200,549	221,460	253,954	330,269	98,217	119,262	135,628	131,264	134,716	142,611	137,356	144,978

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding.

[1] Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data.

[2] Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data.

[3] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of Dodge\DRI Construction and Real Estate Information Service.

[4] Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year.

[5] Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.

[6] Gross gallons of gasoline as reported by wholesale distributors.

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[8] Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. ***Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters.*** Retail sales historical data prior to 1984 are not available for the new series. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual countries; it does not represent a state total. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms.

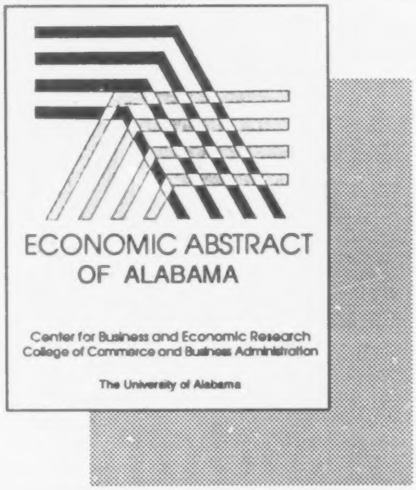
Alabama by the Numbers...

The ***Economic Abstract of Alabama***, 1989 edition, is the most comprehensive source of demographic and economic information available about Alabama and its counties. Business, government, the news media - those who need to know about the state and its people - have come to rely on ***The Economic Abstract of Alabama*** to fulfill their needs for quantitative information.

The 1989 edition is presented in a 6" x 9" perfect bound format, and the book is fully indexed.

The ***Economic Abstract of Alabama*** is only available from the Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama. (ISBN 0-943394-03-1)

Spanning almost 600 pages of tabular material, the 1989 edition has been updated and expanded to include the latest information. Many of the data items are presented at national, state, and county levels and cover several years to facilitate comparisons and trend analysis. The ***Abstract*** contains data series ranging from the early 1900s to the present, as well as forecasts of the state's economy and population projections.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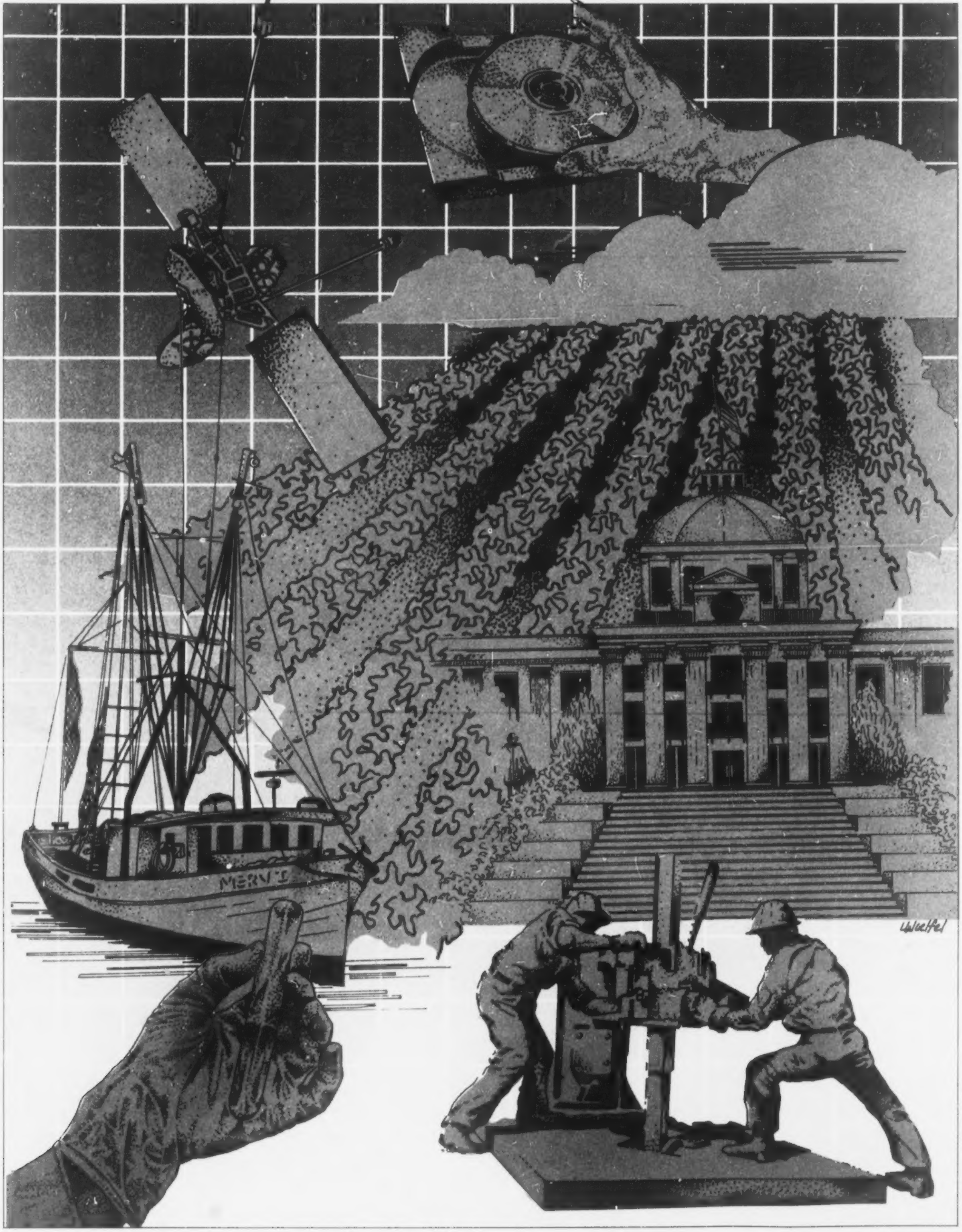

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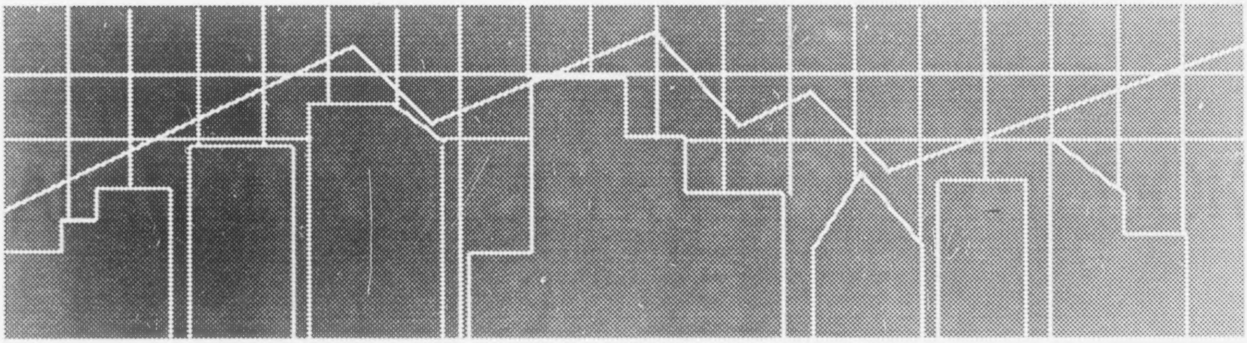
All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, ***Alabama Business***, Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone: (205) 348-6191.

ALABAMA ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

1990



The ***1990 Alabama Economic Outlook***, tenth in an annual series, is a publication of the Center for Business and Economic Research at The University of Alabama. The ***Outlook*** provides both a detailed short term forecast and a long term overview forecast of economic activity in Alabama. The national and regional statistical resources of the Center as well as timely forecasts of national and international economic activity furnished by The WEFA Group provide the basis for these forecasts.

Forecasts summarized in the ***Outlook*** are produced by the Alabama Econometric Model, a comprehensive and closed system of mathematical equations describing the Alabama economy. Formulation of these equations requires a considerable amount of professional judgment in identifying relationships which link Alabama to the nation and in accepting alternative forecasts of national economic behavior. Research economists at the Center have chosen equations which they believe best describe Alabama's economy as well as the most likely forecasts of national economic activity.

The ***1990 Alabama Economic Outlook*** examines current economic conditions and trends and their likely effects on the future condition of the national and Alabama economies. Long term forecasts of economic activity in Alabama cover Gross State Product (the regional equivalent of Gross National Product), employment, personal income, and wages through the year 1995. Detailed long term forecast tables and computerized model data are available from the Center.

The short term forecast for the Alabama economy in 1990 focuses on output and employment in the manufacturing; mining; construction; trade; services; finance, insurance, and real estate; transportation, communications, and public utilities; government; and farming industries.

The annual publication of the ***Outlook*** is intended to provide Alabama planners and decision makers in both the public and private sectors with timely economic analysis. These forecasts are presented and updated at quarterly Economic Outlook Conferences conducted by the Center in various Alabama cities.

The following items are available from the Econometric Model:

________***1990 Alabama Economic Outlook***	$10.00
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Model Data 1969-1995 (Diskette, plus hard copy of Tables):

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ALABAMA'S ENERGY RESOURCE BASE

Jeffrey P. Richetto

Introduction

Since 1980 the Southeast's industrial economy has been in structural transition. Within this highly dynamic and competitive environment Alabama's growth rate is likely to remain one of the slowest in the region over the near term. Although for the past several years Alabama has been involved in industrial recruitment, the state has not formalized a set of objectives or procedures to implement a statewide industrial recruitment strategy. The necessary urban- based information linkages that integrate and connect the state's economy to other surrounding economies are not well established. Also, although Alabama is one of the few southeastern states to possess an abundant and diversified energy resource base, this sector of its economy is visibly underdeveloped.

For Alabama the issue is not lack of energy resources. Instead, the issue is the future extraction of these resources for the purposes of export and state self-sufficiency as well as to provide an abundant supply of low-cost energy for industrial growth and expansion. This article explores the potential role that the state's energy resources may play in developing a coordinated energy/ economic development policy.

A National Perspective

The United States has been experiencing an enormous techno-economic and spatial restructuring in its industrial and business sectors. It appears that at the core of the current process of economic restructuring are new technologies. First, new technologies have contributed to increased productivity, reduced production costs, and improved quality of products. These changes, along with developments of new materials, are likely to result in further increases in productivity and reductions in production employment over the next 10 years.

Second, new technologies have placed management in an advantageous position with regard to workers and trade unions. Technology enhances managerial control over normal work routines. In exchange for employment maintenance (or at least a slowdown in phasing out jobs) managers using new technology may obtain concessions on improvements in wages and working conditions.

Third, new technologies, in particular telecommunication networks, have facilitated the integration of territorially decentralized production, distribution, and administrative functions. Through an integrated system of information and decision dissemination, it is possible for local-based economies to achieve regional, national, and international status.

Finally, large geographic scales of production and distribution become feasible due to the technical standardization of component parts and flexible customized production. Such regional-national-international assembly lines depend upon automated production and flexible reprogrammability, a semi-skilled labor force, and an abundant supply of low-cost energy.

Thus, new technologies are a key component in the process of economic restructuring. Associated with these techno-economic changes, however, is an emerging spatial transformation which is characteristically urban and regional in form. The first of such major developments is the tendency for a "space economy of flows" to replace the conventional "space economy of places." That is, the actual dynamics of a given territory rely mainly on the linkages, or flows, of the population and activities of that territory to activities and decisions beyond its boundary. The development of state, regional, and national economies; the growth of new information and communi- cations technologies; and the formation of powerful transregional and transnational organizations are crucial factors in economic restructuring. These factors define the functions and role that territories perform in the broader interdependent economy.

In contrast to this theme of "placeless" power, a second spatial process is becoming increasingly important. While conventional core-periphery dominance is declining in the contemporary economic development process, community or local-based social and sociopolitical interests are being conceived according to locality. Community organizations, regional and urban movements, ethnic, racial, gender, class, and age-based social networks tend to be manifestations of historically specific localities as opposed to more generalized extraterritorial linkages and flows of information.

This form of economic restructuring has been characteristic of the U.S. economy since the 1920s, albeit modest through the mid-1960s. Since 1965, however, the techno-economic and geographic reorganization of the nation's industrial economy has accelerated sharply. One of the more significant outcomes associated with restructuring the nation's economic production has been its emergent technical and spatial profile. Patterns of migration, foreign direct investment, plant closures, plant expansions, and new plant startups suggest that over the next 20 years the Southeast will exceed or replace the traditional American Manufacturing Belt in industrial development.

A Regional Perspective

There are at least two related economic and geographic processes underlying the regional reorganization of the nation's productive capacity. First, many firms have been locating and relocating their operations in response to three goals: to reduce their local tax base requirement; to identify a lower cost, higher productive labor supply; and to locate in new and expanding markets. These firms are searching for locations associated with modern infrastructure that offers a greater competitive advantage. In particular, the regional economic characteristics of the southeastern states have increasingly favored the location for the manufacture of standardized products. For example, there exist a pro-business environment and limited unionized labor.

Compared to other regions, wages and land costs are low while the costs of other important inputs are competitive. Sufficient numbers of skilled workers are available, but more importantly there is an abundant supply of low-skilled labor needed for standardized manufacturing. Finally, southeastern states are much less urban than the national average, thereby offering excellent sites and below average construction costs for larger production facilities which are capital and energy intensive.

Since 1973 energy and its cost and availability have become ever critical in shaping the decisions of this nation's economy. Although only a few states in the Southeast traditionally have been net energy exporters, there are a number of energy-related trends which characterize the energy potential of this region as a whole. First, the Southeast is relying more upon electricity as the primary source of energy. Second, there are excellent fuel switching capabilities in the Southeast's industrial sector, particularly in the region's core industries, including chemicals, wood and paper products, and primary metals. Third, long-haul shipments are prevalent throughout the region. And cities tend to suffer from disjointed urban sprawl, making it difficult to implement mass public transit systems.

In summary, the energy-based industrial outlook for the Southeast is optimistic. This scenario encourages state and local governments to create an economic and institutional environment which considers the total energy resource base. Because Alabama possesses a wealth of conventional fossil fuels, agricultural and forestry biomass, a climate to utilize solar energy, and hydro resources, the state is in an excellent position to compete for those industries that are characteristically energy and capital intensive, utilize automated production processes, and employ a semi- to low-skilled labor force.

Alabama's Perspective

Within this context, Alabama and its local governments have stepped up industrial recruitment efforts for job-creating investments, particularly for the branch plants of major national and transnational firms. State industrial recruitment strategies are continually being defined and refined in an attempt to increase the probability of success and to attract industrial prospects more selectively. By comparison with other southeastern states, Alabama has experienced only moderate success (Tables 1, 2, and 3).

Table 1. NUMBER OF NEW FACILITIES, EXISTING FACILITY EXPANSIONS, ASSOCIATED EMPLOYMENT, AND CAPITAL TO BE INVESTED IN ALABAMA 1975-1987

	Number of Establishments			Employment			Investment (Millions of Dollars)		
Year	New	Expansions	Total	New	Expansions	Total	New	Expansions	Total
1975	59	847	906	4,844	8,020	12,864	157.7	1,295.2	1,452.9
1976	60	1,168	1,228	4,265	7,960	12,225	387.2	1,227.3	1,614.5
1977	59	1,319	1,378	7,170	16,321	23,491	230.1	1,556.2	1,786.3
1978	87	1,276	1,363	4,595	13,821	18,416	163.3	1,290.8	1,454.1
1979	85	1,230	1,315	8,583	17,545	26,128	294.1	1,507.2	1,801.3
1980	48	1,176	1,224	6,166	11,370	17,536	[illegible]	1,486.9	1,808.7
1981	35	917	952	5,828	11,288	17,116	2,334.2	1,865.9	4,200.1
1982	33	830	863	1,979	9,597	11,576	83.8	997.3	1,081.2
1983	69	808	877	5,123	11,893	17,016	141.0	1,120.3	1,261.1
1984	94	764	858	5,767	14,201	19,968	143.5	1,479.2	1,622.7
1985	75	795	870	3,520	11,144	14,664	170.5	980.8	1,151.3
1986	76	738	814	6,624	9,094	15,718	301.3	953.2	1,254.5
1987	95	778	873	5,423	14,181	19,604	171.0	2,234.0	2,405.0
1988	143	824	967	7,305	20,525	27,830	654.8	1,753.9	2,408.7

Source: Alabama Development Office, 1975-1988, *Alabama New and Expanding Industry*, Annual Reports, Montgomery, Alabama.

TABLE 2. NUMBER AND INVESTMENT OF NEW AND EXPANDING INDUSTRIES IN NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTH CAROLINA 1975-1984

	North Carolina			South Carolina		
Year	New Industry	Expanding Industry	Total Investment (Thousands of Dollars)	New Industry	Expanding Industry	Total Investment (Thousands of Dollars)
1975	116	219	701,286	53	80	511,445
1976	124	911	1,006,493	50	101	487,685
1977	163	631	1,450,199	54	594	1,235,171
1978	169	215	2,023,467	75	395	857,233
1979	192	346	1,826,681	109	617	1,541,135
1980	187	280	2,240,196	79	596	1,515,643
1981	184	712	1,812,152	72	661	2,394,244
1982	144	441	1,289,684	46	644	1,286,645
1983	175	349	2,123,195	49	737	1,912,696
1984	181	1,229	9,671,368	66	763	1,400,229

Source: Planning and Research Division, 1986, South Carolina State Development Board and North Carolina State Planning Organization.

TABLE 3. NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN SOUTHEASTERN STATES 1976-1986

State	1976*	1977*	1978*	1979*	1980*	1981**		1982**	
						No.	($ mill)	No.	($ mill)
Alabama	0	2	0	4	11	6	290.5	4	n.a.
Florida	8	13	41	21	176	270	1,286.1	109	378.1
Georgia	2	10	18	61	57	22	242.2	26	373.4
Kentucky	0	0	5	4	11	8	528.6	6	61.5
Louisiana	2	5	5	9	21	9	253.0	15	60.1
Mississippi	0	1	0	3	6	1	n.a.	1	104.4
North Carolina	2	10	10	26	49	10	91.3	18	285.5
South Carolina	1	5	12	12	6	4	40.0	4	53.8
Tennessee	1	4	13	39	18	10	507.1	7	35.0
Virginia	0	3	20	26	35	22	123.7	14	178.1
West Virginia	0	2	4	4	5	6	644.6	1	n.a.
SOUTHEAST	16	55	128	314	395	366	4,007.1	205	1,529.9

State	1983**		1984**		1985**		1986**	
	No.	($ mill)	No.	($ mill)	No.	($ mill)	No.	($ mill)
Alabama	5	119.9	9	83.3	9	403.7	9	382.2
Florida	92	462.3	58	672.7	36	235.0	42	409.2
Georgia	26	666.3	31	227.0	46	795.9	34	778.9
Kentucky	4	25.5	9	46.6	10	548.0	27	1,641.5
Louisiana	16	436.6	17	200.4	11	684.8	7	134.5
Mississippi	3	5.4	3	173.5	4	30.5	9	18.2
North Carolina	10	56.3	35	270.8	18	12.6	38	262.3
South Carolina	3	22.2	10	111.3	4	n.a.	7	52.9
Tennessee	12	92.6	12	165.5	11	26.2	14	497.0
Virginia	18	182.1	29	422.7	14	351.0	27	1,027.0
West Virginia	2	12.0	6	14.4	2	n.a.	1	69.7
SOUTHEAST	190	2,081.2	219	2,388.2	165	3,087.7	215	5,273.4

* Dollar amounts for investments are not available before 1981.

** Dollar amounts for investments reflect only the value of identified foreign direct investments.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, 1985, *Foreign Direct Investment in the United States: Completed Transactions, 1974-1983*, p. 26; U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, *Foreign Direct Investment in the United States, Transactions, 1984, 1985, 1986*.

In an earlier study conducted by Gayle and Gunther (1983) it was proposed that at least three considerations are necessary to improve Alabama's competitive position for future industrial development. First, state and local policy decisions should no longer be constrained to the annual fiscal year or quadrennial election cycle. Second, the state should identify and take advantage of its relationship within the southern regional economy as well as the national and international economies. Third, Alabama must assess and utilize carefully its natural resources, especially energy, to undergird and propel its future economic growth.

Importantly, the last proposed consideration is consistent with recent studies which identify ways for Alabama to create a more favorable environment for industrial development. Also, the significance of the state's energy resources supports the second major economic-geographic process underlying the spatial transformation of the U.S. industrial economy. That is, Alabama is increasingly attractive because of its available low-cost energy, especially for energy intensive, standardized production processes.

Alabama's Major Energy Resources

Coal. Alabama is rich in fossil fuel energy resources, including coal, oil and gas, and lignite. Coal mining has trended upward in recent years. Demonstrated reserves of nearly five billion short tons make this resource the state's most important fossil fuel. Since 1950 Alabama has consistently ranked in the top 10 coal-producing states in the nation and since 1980 has been a net exporter of coal. With an average annual coal production of 25 million short tons, the state is estimated to have several hundreds of years of primarily high-grade bituminous coal reserves. Also, Alabama has substantial reserves of lignite, nearly two billion short tons have been estimated in the southern part of the state. Although many leases have been executed, lignite reserves remain virtually untapped while techniques for practical utilization are being developed.

Crude Oil and Condensate and Natural Gas. While crude oil and petroleum condensate production is relatively modest and appears to have peaked in 1978, natural gas is rapidly becoming a major energy resource for the state. The state's production of natural gas increased tenfold between 1970 and 1986. Although proven reserves represent only five years of production at current rates, new discoveries are being made annually. In 1970 there were 564 producing wells and 24 oil and gas pools in the state. By the end of 1986 the number of producing wells more than tripled to 1,890 and the number of established pools increased to 306.

Unconventional Resources. Alabama is rich in coal, oil, and gas, and most of the energy used by the state's public and private sectors is directly tied to these nonrenewable resources. Therefore, in the long term it is economically and ecologically prudent to develop alternative energy options. Unconventional nonrenewable sources such as coalbed methane, tar sands, oil shale, geothermal, and uranium all represent viable choices which together possess a vast energy potential for the state (Table 4). And, although renewable energy options are currently in a developmental stage, Alabama has made "first step" progress in the areas of biomass and solar energy. Small-scale hydroelectric installations are also promising sources of energy in the near future.

Biomass. In the State of Alabama are 22 million acres of commercial forest land. Each year the state has approximately 22 million tons of wood residue with a potential for producing an equivalent 58 trillion Btu. By comparison, Alabama's total crude oil production in 1986 would produce the same amount of Btu. In addition to the state's wood biomass, an estimated 6.1 million tons of agricultural wastes and three million tons of solid municipal wastes are produced annually of which nearly all is available for energy conversion.

Solar Energy. Alabama has a climate to support large-scale commercial applications of solar energy with a potential impact of nearly 10 billion kilowatt hours annually. But progress in developing and commercializing the state's solar resource has been slow. Along with several other states, Alabama instituted a state tax credit for the installation of passive and active solar energy systems for residences from 1981 to 1985. During this five-year period a total of 2,575 solar units were installed and Alabama became one of the leading 12 states in the nation in the production and export of flat-plate solar collectors.

Hydroelectric Energy. Finally, while hydropowered generators supplied the bulk of the electrical requirements for Alabama until the early 1950s, currently 21 major dams supply less than 20 percent of the state's total electric generating capacity. Although the remaining number of potential sites for large-scale hydroelectric projects in the state is limited, there are many opportunities for the development of small-scale hydropower projects. Several existing dams with the potential for small-scale electrical production (approximately 71 sites) occur primarily along the state's major rivers and streams. If all these sites become fully developed and operate at maximum estimated capacity, a total of two million kilowatts would be added to the state's electrical generation base.

Conclusions

Over the past 25 years there has been a continuing shift in the structural composition of the U.S. industrial economy. Less emphasis has been placed on traditional labor-intensive, basic manufacturing production while capital-intensive, automated, and standardized component production has been given high priority. The Southeast, in particular, has been one of the leading recipients in the technical and spatial reorganization of the nation's economy. Associated with this economic reorganization is the growing importance of both a low-wage, low-skill labor supply and inexpensive energy in the form of space heat and electricity. Alabama possesses a diversity and wealth of both nonrenewable/renewable and conventional/unconventional energy resources. In 1988, however, Alabama imported nearly 30 percent of its total annual energy need and at present does not have a coordinated policy directly linking its energy resource base to recruitment of industry.

Alabama needs to improve its technological infrastructure; to integrate more fully its economy into the regional, national, and international finance and telecommunication markets; and to implement an aggressive forward-looking statewide industrial recruitment program emphasizing the state's abundant and diverse energy resource base. Until then Alabama's future economic development will continue to rely on its traditional slow-growth industires.

Jeffrey P. Richetto is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at The University of Alabama.

CROP RESIDUE
1982

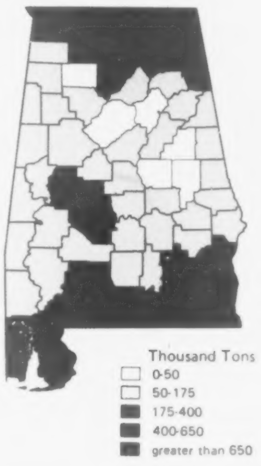
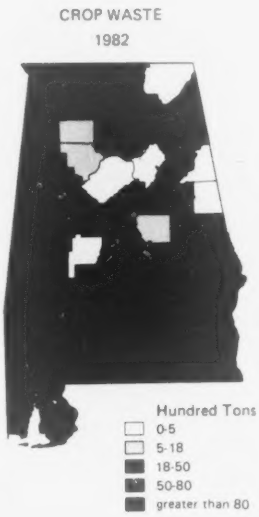
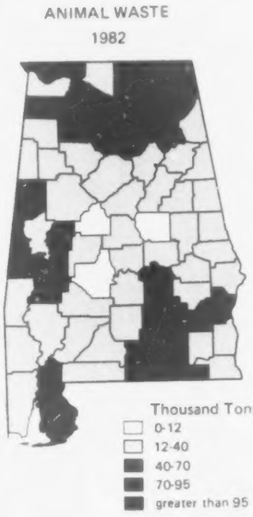


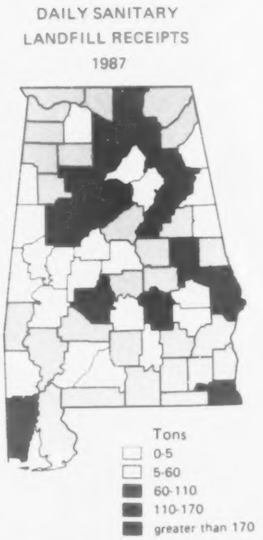
TABLE 4. ALABAMA RESERVE ESTIMATES FOR UNCONVENTIONAL RENEWABLE RESOURCES

Unconventional Resource	Reserve Estimate
Coalbed Methane Gas	20-40 trillion cubic feet with a recovery potential of 50 percent to 80 percent.
Tar Sands	Subsurface reserve yielding 8 billion barrels and a surface reserve yielding 100 million barrels of synthetic crude oil.
Oil Shale	Deposits with less than 150 feet of overburden covers 400,000 acres; with an average shale thickness of 7.5 feet and an average oil yield of 13.2 gallons per ton of rock, the resource totals 3 billion barrels of oil.
Geothermal	Southwest Alabama-depths ranging between 3,000 feet and 6,000 feet temperatures are 120°F and 150°F; 14,000 ft. and 16,000 ft. temperatures are 250°F and 300°F; 18,000 ft. and below temperatures are greater 320°F.
Uranium	North Alabama-fine grains of uraniferous apatite, uraninite, and titanium oxide with a uranium content of 130 parts per million.

Source: Data compiled from various publications produced by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and the Alabama Geological Survey.

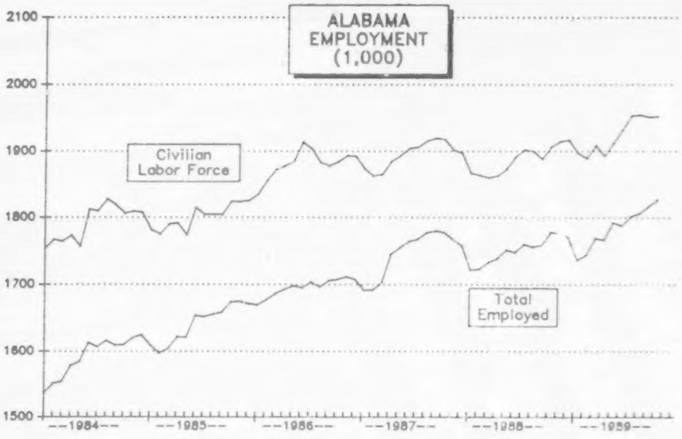

CROP WASTE
1982
Hundred Tons
0-5
5-18
18-50
50-80
greater than 80


ANIMAL WASTE
1982
Thousand Tons
0-12
12-40
40-70
70-95
greater than 95

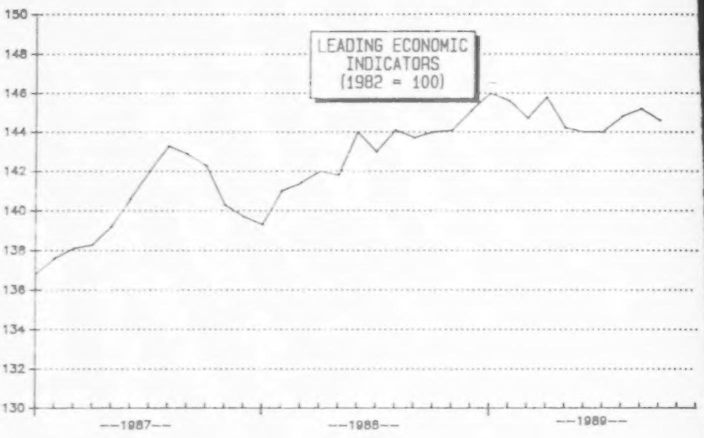

DAILY SANITARY
LANDFILL RECEIPTS
1987
Tons
0-5
5-60
60-110
110-170
greater than 170

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

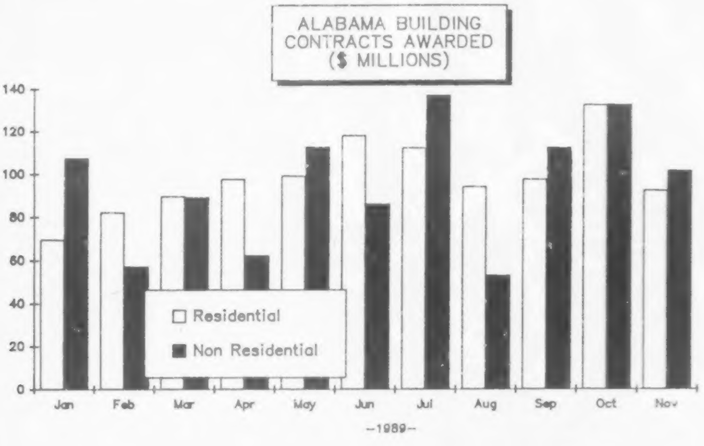
ALABAMA EMPLOYMENT



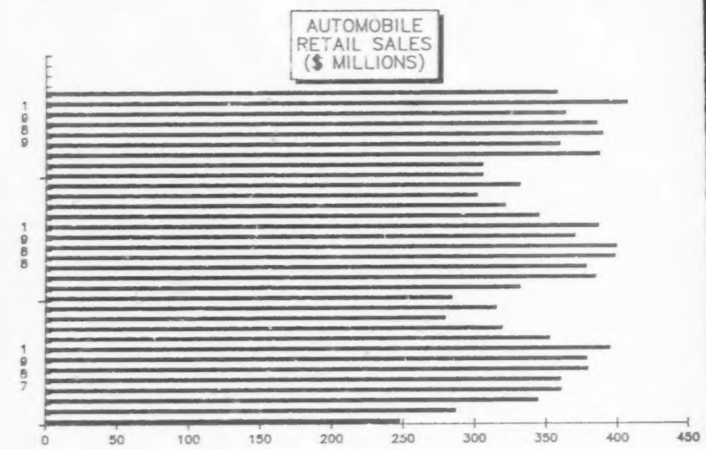
LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS



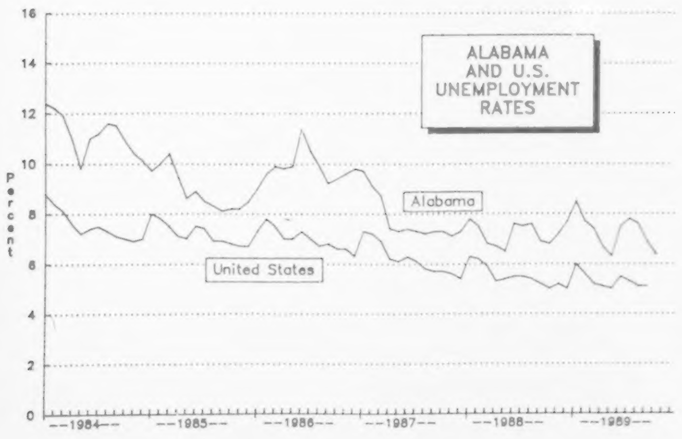
ALABAMA BUILDING CONTRACTS AWARDED



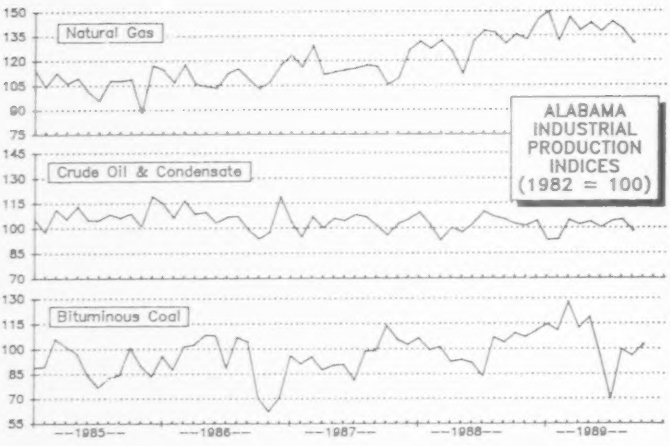
AUTOMOBILE RETAIL SALES



ALABAMA AND U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDICES



GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988				1989								
	1987	1988	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production[1] *(1,000 net tons)*	24,870	26,055	2,242	2,360	2,311	2,393	2,478	2,394	2,765	2,426	2,575	2,077	1,506	2,156	2,072
Natural gas production *(1,000,000 cu. ft.)*	155,990	176,008	14,497	15,160	14,782	16,141	16,717	14,672	16,342	15,407	15,937	15,340	16,020	15,498	14,559
Cotton consumption *(1,000 lbs.)*	483,311	482,002	43,208	41,496	39,776	37,268	41,932	39,300	45,356	41,760	49,634	48,418	38,372	54,134	48,285
Crude oil and condensate production[2] *(1,000 barrels)*	20,621	20,597	1,754	1,706	1,691	1,745	1,547	1,556	1,750	1,700	1,734	1,671	1,737	1,754	1,640
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	24,675	26,008	2,227	2,198	2,210	2,120	2,098	2,155	2,174	2,247	2,319	2,224	2,214	2,382	2,172
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production *(1,000 net tons)*	6,904	6,977	590	579	531	595	619	551	583	613	574	578	633	596	591
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] *($1,000)*	3,114,400	3,533,400	301,200	266,300	241,700	236,300	193,000	238,000	224,300	213,700	262,300	238,700	344,300	190,700	262,800
Residential	1,340,300	1,145,200	88,800	89,700	82,200	90,800	69,700	82,300	89,700	97,700	99,200	118,000	112,200	94,100	97,600
Nonresidential	1,009,700	1,453,200	81,500	108,100	81,700	78,400	107,600	57,400	89,300	62,300	112,700	86,100	136,900	53,100	112,300
Public works and utilities	764,300	935,100	131,000	68,600	77,800	67,100	15,600	98,300	45,500	53,600	50,400	34,600	95,100	43,500	52,900
Cement consumption *(1,000 net tons)*	1,401	1,398	111	126	115	111	93	76	111	123	126	100	106	134	105
TAX COLLECTIONS															
Title of Tax *($1,000)*															
Total	3,052,983	3,184,030	274,317	242,778	270,761	255,829	271,830	260,683	333,788	330,038	342,359	283,213	249,133	276,960	298,822
Franchise	85,027	81,609	5,129	1,189	464	573	757	2,135	55,015	3,217	1,477	5,560	1,254	684	2,745
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	213,006	220,608	18,570	19,000	17,717	20,244	19,904	17,293	17,125	17,397	21,422	20,102	19,721	19,416	20,516
Income	1,249,376	1,296,181	112,966	65,791	120,789	106,266	86,088	133,760	138,344	150,169	184,870	128,874	66,919	132,451	130,327
Motor fuels	56,856	60,244	4,199	4,865	7,179	4,967	5,202	5,055	5,909	4,198	6,592	4,607	5,068	5,391	4,689
Oil/gas privilege	35,150	35,493	2,955	2,444	2,688	2,639	3,154	2,436	3,207	2,879	3,462	6,203	3,116	3,276	2,977
Oil/gas production	9,962	10,432	866	731	885	856	961	721	948	828	1,046	1,701	905	964	914
Sales	810,128	844,582	71,299	71,097	72,229	77,565	80,724	62,558	71,945	67,748	82,276	76,227	73,188	74,636	76,818
2.2% gross receipts	57,351	59,202	7	15,039	108	8	14,762	312	1	14,641	422	30	15,056	0	35
TVA electric	47,383	52,522	4,220	5,449	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545
Tobacco	72,605	71,847	5,984	6,261	5,650	6,477	5,596	5,359	5,499	5,962	6,082	6,225	5,935	5,877	5,422
Use	88,397	97,843	1,460	21,941	1,577	1,302	22,706	1,847	1,315	20,350	2,212	932	22,136	2,074	684
Utility	165,984	171,014	14,877	13,604	14,143	14,517	15,968	15,032	14,754	13,333	13,527	13,794	16,700	15,692	15,320
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index, U.S. *(1982-84 = 100)*															
All items	113.6	118.3	119.8	120.2	120.3	120.5	121.1	121.6	122.3	123.1	123.8	124.1	124.4	124.6	125.0
Percent change	4.3	4.3	.7	.3	.1	.2	.5	.4	.6	.7	.6	.2	.2	.2	.3
Food	113.5	118.2	120.2	120.3	120.2	120.7	122.2	122.9	123.5	124.2	124.9	125.0	125.5	125.8	126.1
Housing	114.2	118.5	119.9	119.9	119.9	120.2	120.7	121.1	121.5	121.6	122.1	122.9	123.9	124.2	124.3
Fuel and utilities	103.0	104.4	106.4	105.4	104.3	105.0	106.0	105.9	105.9	106.2	107.0	109.2	109.7	109.7	109.7
Apparel and upkeep	110.6	115.4	117.8	120.7	119.9	118.0	115.3	115.3	119.3	120.9	120.4	117.8	115.0	115.0	120.0
Transportation	105.4	108.7	109.7	110.0	110.7	110.8	111.1	111.6	111.9	114.6	116.0	115.9	115.4	114.3	113.7
Medical care	130.1	138.6	140.4	141.2	141.8	142.3	143.8	145.2	146.1	146.8	147.5	148.5	149.7	150.7	151.7
Energy	88.6	89.3	91.9	89.9	88.9	88.7	89.0	89.3	89.8	94.9	97.4	99.0	98.5	97.0	95.9
Producer Price Index, U.S. *(1982 = 100)*															
All commodities	102.8	106.9	108.1	108.2	108.3	109.0	110.5	110.8	111.5	112.3	113.2	112.9	112.7	112.0	112.3
Industrial commodities	102.6	106.3	106.8	107.1	107.5	108.1	109.6	110.1	110.6	111.8	112.4	112.4	112.2	111.4	111.9
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S.															
As measured by															
Consumer prices *(1982-84 = $1.000)*	880	846	835	832	831	830	826	822	818	812	808	806	804	803	800
Wholesale prices *(1982 = $1.000)*	973	935	925	924	923	917	905	903	897	890	883	886	887	893	890
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT[4]															
Civilian labor force *(1,000 workers)*	1,895.0	1,887.0	1,888.0	1,906.7	1,914.9	1,917.2	1,897.6	1,888.8	1,908.9	1,892.1	1,911.8	1,931.7	1,953.1	1,954.6	1,951.1
Unemployment	147.0	136.0	129.5	129.1	138.6	147.3	161.7	144.9	140.4	126.1	119.6	144.3	151.9	148.6	134.8
Unemployment rate	7.8	7.2	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.7	8.5	7.7	7.4	6.7	6.3	7.5	7.8	7.6	6.9
Employment	1,748.0	1,751.0	1,758.5	1,777.6	1,776.3	1,769.9	1,735.9	1,743.9	1,768.5	1,766.0	1,792.2	1,787.4	1,801.2	1,806.0	1,816.3
Nonagricultural	1,507.7	1,551.3	1,551.7	1,560.9	1,585.9	1,573.8	1,549.8	1,556.0	1,559.5	1,566.9	1,578.7	1,575.2	1,571.3	1,576.1	1,577.0
Manufacturing	368.8	378.9	380.2	380.7	382.0	380.6	381.0	383.8	382.7	385.3	385.7	387.4	383.0	387.7	387.2
Durable goods	178.0	184.4	185.3	186.8	187.2	187.0	186.9	187.5	187.0	188.6	189.2	189.0	187.0	188.9	189.9
Lumber and wood products	29.9	30.4	31.0	30.7	30.6	30.4	30.3	30.3	30.5	30.7	30.8	31.0	30.5	30.4	30.3
Stone, clay, glass products	9.7	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	9.9	10.0	9.9	9.8
Primary metals	25.5	27.0	27.4	27.6	27.7	27.8	27.9	28.1	28.0	28.2	28.2	28.3	27.5	27.8	28.2
Fabricated metals	22.0	21.5	21.3	21.3	21.3	21.2	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.6	21.6	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.7
Machinery (excl. electrical)	21.6	26.8	26.9	27.7	27.8	28.1	27.7	28.0	28.2	28.5	28.5	28.4	28.4	28.7	28.5
Electrical, electronic equip.	22.5	20.4	20.3	20.7	20.9	20.4	20.7	20.8	20.1	20.6	21.1	20.6	21.0	21.2	21.4
Transportation	28.6	29.5	29.4	29.7	29.7	29.9	29.9	29.9	29.7	29.8	30.3	30.6	29.8	31.2	31.4
Other durable goods	18.2	18.7	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.7	18.8	18.9	19.1	18.6	18.7	18.3	18.2	18.6
Nondurable goods	190.8	194.5	194.9	193.9	194.8	193.6	194.1	196.3	195.7	196.7	196.5	198.4	196.0	198.8	197.3
Food	31.2	32.2	32.6	32.8	32.8	32.6	32.6	33.0	32.7	33.6	33.8	34.4	34.9	35.1	35.2
Textile mill products	39.0	40.4	40.2	40.6	40.7	40.9	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.8	40.4	40.8	40.4	41.0	41.1
Apparel	55.9	56.2	56.3	55.1	55.0	54.2	54.9	56.5	56.0	56.2	56.3	57.0	54.6	56.0	55.7
Paper and allied products	21.1	21.1	21.1	20.8	21.7	21.3	21.1	20.9	21.0	20.9	21.1	21.4	21.5	21.9	21.5
Printing and publishing	12.7	12.7	12.5	12.5	12.8	13.0	13.1	13.2	13.2	13.0	13.0	12.9	12.8	12.8	12.9
Chemicals and allied products	11.2	11.1	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.5
Rubber products	17.5	18.6	18.9	18.7	18.4	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.5	18.4	18.2	18.1	17.9	18.1	16.9
Other nondurable goods	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Nonmanufacturing	1,138.9	1,172.4	1,171.5	1,180.2	1,203.9	1,193.2	1,168.8	1,172.2	1,176.8	1,181.6	1,193.0	1,187.8	1,188.3	1,188.4	1,189.8
Mining and quarrying	11.3	11.2	11.0	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.4	6.3	11.2	11.4
Bituminous coal mining	8.1	7.7	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	2.3	7.2	7.3
Contract construction	75.1	77.4	78.7	78.2	77.0	76.5	71.4	72.1	73.2	74.3	75.2	74.9	75.1	75.5	75.1
Trans., comm., and utilities	73.3	79.0	79.1	79.0	79.2	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.7	79.4	79.5	79.5	79.9	80.0	79.5
Trade	331.7	339.5	341.4	344.0	347.8	355.2	344.7	341.6	341.9	343.2	344.1	345.5	345.3	345.3	346.0
Wholesale	78.4	79.5	80.0	80.4	80.1	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.4	80.7	80.8	81.3	81.5	81.5	81.7
Retail	253.3	259.9	261.4	263.6	267.7	274.9	264.7	261.6	261.5	262.5	263.3	264.2	263.8	263.8	264.3
Finance, insurance, real estate	70.5	70.2	70.6	70.6	70.6	70.8	70.2	70.6	71.1	71.1	71.3	71.6	71.8	71.8	71.6
Service and miscellaneous	276.5	286.1	288.8	289.3	289.8	290.9	282.1	284.0	285.9	287.5	294.8	295.1	297.1	296.5	298.1
Government	300.6	308.9	301.9	307.8	328.1	309.4	309.8	313.3	313.7	314.8	316.8	309.8	312.8	308.1	308.1
Federal	65.9	65.6	64.7	65.0	64.9	64.2	63.8	63.9	63.8	63.9	64.2	65.1	65.2	65.3	65.2
State and local	234.7	243.4	237.2	242.8	263.2	245.2	246.0	249.4	249.9	250.9	252.6	244.7	247.6	242.8	242.9

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988				1989								
	1987	1988	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	224,282	240,540	22,664	21,985	20,729	16,488	24,750	19,639	23,116	17,324	22,609	25,182	26,475	28,171	25,196
Nonagricultural placements	96,391	107,113	9,591	8,553	8,494	6,711	6,593	7,002	8,377	7,345	9,439	8,911	16,284	12,821	10,258
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	349,204	348,271	21,909	24,517	25,161	28,031	59,343	23,782	24,455	19,828	23,235	25,370	46,377	26,522	19,703
Payments *($1,000)*	165,953	140,632	10,195	9,492	11,406	12,412	16,421	13,471	15,505	11,260	11,636	12,656	13,367	14,455	10,615
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	16,116	15,782	15,970	16,080	16,240	16,090	15,800	15,990	16,050	15,920	16,120	16,130	16,230	16,440	16,440
	7.0	6.1	7.4	6.7	7.8	7.0	6.9	7.6	6.2	6.4	6.7	7.7	7.4	9.0	8.4
Baldwin	39,863	39,573	39,530	39,390	39,790	40,030	39,560	39,220	39,820	39,050	39,370	39,610	40,640	39,800	39,660
	7.6	8.1	8.6	7.4	7.8	8.6	9.0	7.7	7.4	6.4	5.9	6.7	7.7	6.9	6.6
Barbour	11,648	12,091	12,130	12,320	12,430	12,370	12,300	12,140	12,380	12,170	12,150	12,260	12,350	12,410	12,490
	8.0	7.5	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.4	10.1	8.5	7.8	7.1	6.7	8.0	8.1	8.1	6.9
Bibb	7,278	7,212	7,350	7,210	7,280	7,170	7,220	7,000	7,020	6,950	7,050	7,300	7,200	7,280	7,230
	11.1	10.0	8.8	9.5	9.9	13.9	16.3	8.6	7.9	7.7	6.8	8.0	7.7	7.8	7.1
Blount	17,620	17,172	16,980	17,190	17,250	17,410	17,160	17,010	17,220	16,990	17,170	17,390	17,400	17,340	17,530
	7.3	6.8	5.2	5.5	6.6	6.9	7.5	6.2	5.8	5.1	4.6	5.7	5.4	5.2	5.2
Bullock	3,801	4,405	4,380	4,460	4,540	4,410	4,390	4,220	4,220	4,230	4,220	4,420	4,650	4,690	4,510
	14.4	13.5	13.7	13.2	13.3	13.4	14.3	11.6	11.8	11.3	10.2	14.2	15.0	14.6	11.8
Butler	9,599	9,266	9,190	9,230	9,470	9,280	9,140	9,160	9,150	8,970	8,920	9,450	9,420	9,390	9,110
	10.6	10.4	11.0	12.2	13.8	13.3	15.9	15.8	12.8	11.7	11.2	16.3	14.4	14.6	12.1
Calhoun	51,596	52,094	52,050	52,140	52,490	52,810	52,400	51,980	51,430	51,870	52,470	53,020	53,660	53,520	53,670
	7.8	7.3	6.7	6.2	6.7	7.0	8.4	7.3	7.6	7.6	6.1	7.3	8.1	7.1	6.8
Chambers	17,510	17,075	16,940	17,070	17,120	17,110	16,840	16,600	16,730	16,520	16,640	16,820	16,770	16,940	16,860
	5.9	5.4	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.7	6.7	5.7	5.8	5.2	5.9	7.2	7.2	7.2	5.6
Cherokee	7,970	8,308	8,260	8,390	8,610	8,480	8,500	8,320	8,360	8,290	8,230	8,510	8,470	8,480	8,480
	8.7	7.5	7.1	6.6	6.9	7.7	10.4	8.3	7.3	8.0	7.1	10.0	9.3	8.5	8.2
Chilton	15,588	14,836	14,830	14,920	15,200	15,000	15,090	14,890	14,790	14,800	14,900	15,080	15,350	15,320	15,240
	9.5	7.9	7.7	7.3	8.4	9.5	10.1	8.1	7.7	7.3	6.7	8.0	9.5	9.0	8.3
Choctaw	7,003	7,078	6,980	7,030	7,390	7,060	7,130	7,000	6,960	6,910	7,010	7,140	7,250	7,170	7,030
	10.0	9.5	8.6	9.3	10.8	10.5	12.7	11.0	10.1	9.7	8.9	9.8	10.2	9.6	9.9
Clarke	11,461	11,513	11,470	11,330	11,460	11,630	11,510	11,320	11,340	11,070	11,160	11,540	11,500	11,380	11,280
	11.2	10.6	9.6	8.3	8.5	11.2	12.7	11.0	10.3	8.6	7.9	10.7	10.1	8.9	8.1
Clay	6,146	6,152	6,130	6,210	6,240	6,230	6,240	6,270	6,510	6,380	6,500	6,430	6,600	6,670	6,630
	8.9	7.7	7.4	6.7	5.8	6.6	7.3	6.8	14.8	5.7	6.7	8.2	7.9	7.4	6.0
Cleburne	5,431	5,433	5,410	5,710	5,830	5,640	5,610	5,490	5,640	5,740	5,770	5,830	5,870	5,760	5,680
	7.2	6.5	5.7	4.5	4.5	5.5	9.2	6.9	6.4	7.3	4.8	5.5	7.3	6.2	5.3
Coffee	17,960	18,068	17,810	18,260	18,320	18,080	18,010	18,000	18,300	18,100	16,070	18,410	18,890	18,900	18,710
	6.3	6.5	6.1	6.3	7.1	7.3	7.3	6.2	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.9	6.7	5.9	5.2
Colbert	23,872	23,713	23,540	23,950	24,020	24,220	24,050	23,940	24,280	23,850	23,950	24,110	24,570	24,650	24,840
	10.2	9.2	8.2	9.1	9.4	10.5	12.6	11.5	11.5	9.5	8.6	9.5	10.8	10.6	9.6
Conecuh	6,009	5,623	5,530	5,590	5,770	5,710	5,660	5,540	5,560	5,510	5,520	5,580	5,620	5,670	5,520
	16.0	10.9	10.2	9.3	9.9	12.6	12.3	11.4	10.8	9.7	8.6	11.5	10.1	10.1	8.7
Coosa	4,988	4,952	4,960	5,030	5,010	4,960	4,890	4,850	4,940	4,970	4,960	5,050	5,080	5,150	5,140
	5.5	6.2	5.8	5.5	7.2	8.1	8.2	7.4	7.7	5.8	5.6	6.7	6.3	6.3	6.3
Covington	17,413	17,374	17,070	17,480	17,890	18,060	17,800	17,560	17,650	17,420	17,580	17,760	18,190	18,180	17,750
	7.5	7.8	7.3	9.4	9.1	9.4	9.5	8.4	7.9	6.5	5.9	7.0	8.0	7.1	6.0
Crenshaw	6,538	6,777	6,820	6,990	7,120	6,900	6,920	6,810	6,930	6,850	6,920	7,050	7,170	7,340	7,190
	9.2	7.0	6.4	5.8	7.0	7.4	9.1	7.0	6.5	6.1	5.9	7.3	7.2	7.2	6.0
Cullman	31,713	32,049	32,260	32,610	33,060	32,770	32,580	31,990	32,420	32,270	32,610	32,980	33,470	33,590	33,010
	7.7	7.3	6.7	6.8	7.3	7.7	8.7	7.6	7.1	5.9	5.5	6.1	6.4	6.4	5.7
Dale	17,831	17,971	17,920	18,230	18,290	18,420	18,130	18,010	18,310	18,180	18,500	18,610	18,620	18,860	18,740
	7.5	7.8	7.6	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.9	8.1	8.2	7.0	7.4	8.1	7.4	7.9	6.8
Dallas	21,371	20,411	20,270	20,480	20,470	20,350	20,140	19,970	20,090	19,900	20,030	20,470	21,060	20,950	20,460
	14.6	12.1	12.2	11.4	11.4	11.9	12.5	12.1	11.3	10.8	10.6	12.5	13.6	13.7	13.3
DeKalb	29,014	29,821	29,650	30,320	30,670	30,410	30,170	29,830	30,470	30,230	30,170	31,020	32,070	32,160	31,260
	7.8	7.3	6.8	6.7	7.3	7.8	9.1	8.4	8.4	7.0	6.0	6.8	7.1	6.9	6.0
Elmore	21,000	21,508	21,450	21,710	21,830	21,760	21,430	21,590	21,860	21,540	21,800	21,710	21,860	21,750	21,790
	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.5	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.3	5.9	5.3	5.6	6.3	6.0	5.9	5.5
Escambia	16,782	16,373	16,230	16,450	16,730	16,530	16,380	16,200	16,350	16,100	16,100	16,520	16,790	16,810	16,800
	10.4	9.7	8.8	8.6	10.2	11.0	11.8	10.4	9.6	9.5	8.8	9.9	9.2	9.4	8.5
Etowah	43,120	42,183	42,540	42,540	42,850	42,710	42,330	42,080	42,800	42,030	42,490	43,100	43,810	44,220	44,460
	9.2	8.4	8.4	8.1	9.8	10.2	11.4	10.1	10.2	7.9	7.8	9.5	9.5	10.1	13.5
Fayette	7,636	7,478	7,530	7,540	7,680	7,570	7,620	7,670	7,650	7,630	7,680	7,780	7,740	7,990	8,160
	10.6	8.1	7.3	7.0	7.8	8.0	10.2	10.2	7.9	8.1	7.5	8.1	12.4	9.9	8.3
Franklin	15,130	14,549	14,390	14,660	14,760	14,690	14,670	14,510	14,770	14,510	14,800	15,230	15,760	15,310	15,230
	10.1	10.8	8.8	14.2	13.5	11.8	13.2	12.3	11.4	10.6	9.4	10.3	12.7	11.4	12.2
Geneva	10,443	10,563	10,580	11,000	10,960	10,800	10,740	10,640	10,740	10,690	10,670	10,980	11,290	11,080	11,060
	6.2	5.5	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.9	6.3	5.6	5.3	5.0	4.1	5.3	6.3	5.5	4.6
Greene	3,743	3,646	3,590	3,630	3,780	3,650	3,750	3,650	3,660	3,610	3,590	3,830	3,890	3,970	3,910
	15.3	11.8	9.3	9.2	10.1	11.0	14.5	11.9	11.5	10.7	9.3	13.0	11.6	16.7	15.1
Hale	6,105	6,067	6,010	6,120	6,380	6,240	6,280	6,150	6,250	6,130	6,200	6,340	6,390	6,390	6,330
	8.2	7.8	7.0	6.5	7.7	8.4	10.8	8.3	8.0	7.0	7.1	8.7	8.3	8.3	6.5
Henry	6,766	6,960	7,000	7,110	7,370	7,120	7,070	6,890	6,890	6,720	6,690	6,740	6,890	6,880	6,850
	6.6	6.2	6.1	5.2	5.7	5.6	7.7	6.9	6.5	6.0	5.4	6.6	7.7	6.4	5.1
Houston	40,014	40,337	40,300	40,540	40,730	40,920	40,630	40,350	40,930	40,810	41,300	41,740	41,940	42,260	42,230
	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.1	5.3	5.3	6.5	5.6	5.5	4.7	4.5	5.7	5.4	5.3	4.8
Jackson	20,929	20,804	20,520	20,430	20,580	20,790	21,150	20,620	20,680	20,610	20,710	21,170	21,180	21,290	21,190
	9.4	12.0	12.7	12.8	13.3	14.7	17.2	15.0	13.5	12.4	10.2	12.1	11.5	10.6	9.1
Jefferson	338,868	331,653	333,320	335,940	333,140	335,760	330,350	330,160	334,580	332,120	336,640	339,940	341,690	341,740	342,660
	6.6	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.7	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.1	5.9	6.0	6.1	5.4
Lamar	8,675	8,518	8,510	8,540	8,810	8,590	8,540	8,460	8,690	8,600	8,590	8,720	8,940	8,830	8,880
	6.9	6.2	6.6	6.1	6.0	5.9	7.1	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.4	7.6	11.9	8.2	7.1
Lauderdale	36,490	36,645	36,540	36,830	36,820	37,330	36,530	36,630	36,980	36,610	37,090	37,310	37,650	37,590	37,790
	8.2	7.5	6.9	6.9	7.0	8.6	9.4	9.0	8.5	7.3	7.1	7.9	8.4	7.8	6.6
Lawrence	11,918	12,687	12,530	12,590	12,640	13,000	13,130	12,880	12,860	12,650	12,890	13,470	13,760	13,620	13,480
	12.7	10.5	9.2	9.1	9.3	12.2	14.1	12.9	12.4	9.8	9.6	13.7	13.9	12.8	10.3

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988				1989								
	1987	1988	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT.															
Lee	38,259 5.4	38,786 5.1	39,150 5.0	39,750 4.9	39,700 5.0	39,500 5.0	39,030 5.0	39,180 4.4	39,750 4.4	39,440 3.7	40,170 4.0	39,860 5.3	39,940 5.0	40,650 5.1	40,900 4.4
Limestone	30,096 6.5	30,997 6.1	31,510 5.0	32,040 5.1	32,210 6.0	31,450 6.5	31,100 7.8	30,750 6.9	30,590 6.4	30,420 5.5	30,670 5.0	30,630 7.1	30,150 8.7	31,250 6.4	31,780 5.4
Lowndes	4,688 19.3	5,347 14.3	5,790 11.7	5,860 11.1	6,050 11.2	5,960 11.7	5,960 13.7	6,230 12.6	6,390 11.7	6,450 10.7	6,530 10.4	6,770 13.6	7,050 14.5	7,020 13.2	6,650 11.9
Macon	10,563 6.7	10,389 7.6	10,320 7.2	10,380 7.2	10,400 7.6	10,280 7.8	10,270 9.4	10,180 8.1	10,190 7.0	10,010 6.3	10,130 6.4	9,980 7.6	10,340 7.6	10,810 8.1	10,500 6.3
Madison	130,399 5.2	132,750 5.1	134,170 5.0	135,130 4.7	134,880 5.1	136,170 5.3	133,930 5.7	133,930 5.3	135,050 5.0	134,840 4.5	137,550 4.2	139,230 5.4	139,440 5.4	140,140 5.6	140,120 4.9
Marengo	9,838 8.4	9,588 7.2	9,510 6.6	9,610 6.2	9,760 6.6	9,740 8.1	9,420 8.5	9,370 7.6	9,460 7.2	9,380 6.7	9,490 6.5	9,770 8.0	9,860 8.1	9,720 7.5	9,530 5.9
Marion	15,548 10.7	15,624 8.5	15,550 7.1	15,610 7.6	15,650 8.5	15,320 9.2	15,680 12.9	15,200 9.3	15,280 8.6	15,220 9.2	15,400 9.0	15,680 11.5	16,020 13.9	15,850 12.8	16,080 14.2
Marshall	37,288 7.9	38,209 7.8	38,220 6.1	38,500 6.4	39,540 10.0	38,930 8.4	38,890 9.4	38,600 8.4	38,620 8.0	38,430 6.4	39,130 5.8	39,600 7.2	40,330 7.8	40,090 6.9	39,530 6.4
Mobile	172,319 9.7	169,208 9.2	167,700 8.9	169,030 8.8	171,310 9.5	172,480 10.4	170,570 10.9	170,930 10.5	172,520 9.7	170,030 9.1	170,740 8.3	172,510 9.5	174,660 9.3	173,080 9.5	171,390 8.6
Monroe	9,708 11.7	9,641 9.8	9,510 7.8	9,810 9.6	9,950 10.4	9,790 10.6	9,840 12.1	9,780 12.0	9,970 12.2	9,730 10.8	9,810 9.9	9,850 10.7	10,010 10.3	9,910 10.9	9,690 9.2
Montgomery	100,183 5.5	99,398 6.3	98,910 6.0	100,060 5.7	100,460 6.2	100,250 6.2	99,320 5.9	99,120 6.2	100,700 6.1	99,410 5.8	100,580 6.0	100,560 7.0	102,020 7.4	101,650 7.5	101,250 6.5
Morgan	46,67[illegible] 8.5	46,803 7.6	46,610 7.0	46,690 6.6	47,060 7.2	47,720 8.8	46,970 8.5	46,400 7.9	47,120 9.0	46,520 6.5	47,290 6.2	48,670 9.0	49,530 8.9	48,820 7.2	49,160 6.3
Perry	5,363 11.8	5,608 10.1	5,610 7.8	5,730 7.2	6,050 10.2	5,960 17.8	5,860 16.9	5,780 11.1	5,810 9.4	5,700 7.4	5,780 7.8	5,800 9.1	6,020 9.2	6,060 9.2	5,890 8.2
Pickens	7,268 11.2	7,168 10.2	7,140 8.3	7,250 8.2	7,360 8.0	7,330 9.6	7,330 11.9	7,190 10.8	7,270 10.0	7,150 10.0	7,210 8.9	7,320 11.7	7,380 10.2	7,480 9.9	7,410 8.3
Pike	12,545 7.0	12,639 6.2	12,880 6.7	13,080 5.6	13,160 5.7	12,580 7.0	12,990 6.8	12,900 5.9	13,140 6.1	12,970 5.3	13,170 5.3	12,980 6.6	13,060 6.5	13,150 6.8	12,980 5.6
Randolph	9,586 6.4	9,341 6.7	9,200 7.6	9,600 6.4	9,580 5.3	9,610 6.4	9,530 7.2	9,370 6.3	9,520 6.5	9,320 5.8	9,330 5.9	9,400 7.5	9,370 8.9	9,530 8.9	9,450 8.4
Russell	22,475 7.1	23,306 6.3	23,240 5.5	24,090 8.1	23,270 6.4	23,520 6.3	22,850 6.2	22,960 5.8	23,080 5.1	22,980 4.6	23,340 4.6	23,540 5.5	23,730 5.9	23,500 5.2	23,640 5.3
St. Clair	21,388 6.0	21,522 6.0	21,550 5.6	21,750 5.5	21,670 6.0	21,940 6.6	21,730 7.6	21,640 6.8	22,110 7.3	21,740 6.2	21,820 5.2	22,050 6.0	22,150 6.1	21,990 5.5	22,320 5.9
Shelby	40,103 5.0	40,287 4.6	40,410 4.3	40,690 4.0	40,640 4.8	40,970 4.9	40,530 5.9	40,330 4.9	40,840 4.6	40,390 4.1	40,960 3.9	41,490 5.0	41,830 5.5	41,500 4.8	41,760 4.4
Sumter	5,919 12.6	5,585 10.0	5,690 8.8	5,730 7.1	5,830 7.7	5,690 9.4	5,750 10.8	5,640 7.7	5,750 8.1	5,650 7.6	5,700 7.2	6,090 11.8	6,250 10.7	6,230 10.8	6,170 8.4
Talladega	32,228 9.6	31,840 10.0	31,980 9.6	32,140 9.6	32,110 10.3	32,500 10.6	31,920 12.3	31,810 11.3	32,090 10.5	31,880 9.7	32,020 9.1	32,290 11.1	33,420 13.2	33,420 10.8	33,220 9.6
Tallapoosa	18,992 6.5	18,483 6.3	18,340 5.6	18,700 6.1	18,670 6.0	18,570 5.8	18,440 7.2	18,290 5.7	18,520 5.7	18,510 5.8	18,720 5.0	18,940 6.4	19,130 6.7	19,300 6.9	19,160 5.9
Tuscaloosa	69,623 6.1	70,020 5.4	70,530 5.4	71,660 5.0	71,540 5.0	71,870 5.5	70,880 6.0	70,920 5.4	72,000 5.4	71,680 5.0	72,400 5.3	71,250 5.7	72,080 5.8	72,460 5.4	73,830 4.8
Walker	28,983 11.0	28,521 9.1	28,800 9.5	28,990 9.2	28,910 9.7	29,290 10.3	29,190 11.9	29,070 11.1	29,250 10.3	29,590 11.8	29,070 8.8	29,020 8.5	29,370 9.3	30,990 14.1	31,170 13.7
Washington	5,719 13.4	6,583 11.0	6,660 12.3	5,740 11.6	6,900 12.0	6,950 14.1	7,000 14.2	6,950 13.4	6,990 13.2	6,750 10.3	6,800 9.0	6,870 10.5	7,040 11.9	6,940 10.5	6,950 9.4
Wilcox	4,407 12.6	4,243 12.1	4,210 12.3	4,200 10.5	4,480 12.0	4,350 15.3	4,200 16.7	4,260 17.7	4,270 16.0	4,090 12.6	4,210 12.3	4,360 15.8	4,350 16.4	4,420 16.1	4,300 14.2
Winston	9,883 13.9	10,401 10.8	10,400 8.0	10,610 11.2	10,710 10.6	10,510 11.9	10,600 14.1	10,460 14.9	10,370 10.8	10,350 8.6	10,490 7.8	10,550 9.4	10,850 11.1	10,890 11.7	10,980 11.9
TRADE															
Foreign															
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[4] *(1,000 tons)*	29,363	32,684	2,701	3,970	2,668	2,646	3,123	2,788	3,067	2,736	3,752	2,633	3,585	2,969	2,765
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, nonindustrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	28,038	28,507	2,582	1,966	1,820	2,263	2,338	2,120	2,193	1,938	2,128	2,583	2,870	3,070	2,694
Gasoline sales[6] *(1,000 gallons)*	2,084,218	2,072,236	179,095	155,015	190,201	186,652	161,069	158,657	162,351	199,546	186,328	182,508	179,530		
New passenger car registrations[7] *(number)*	140,070	133,614	11,502	10,571	10,060	11,594	9,256	8,572	9,762	10,212	8,082	7,282	7,599	12,782	11,344
Taxable retail sales by kind of business, state totals[8] *($1,000,000)*															
Food	4,093	4,127	349	344	338	372	342	331	352	351	347	363	362	350	349
General merchandise	2,862	3,047	236	253	294	413	198	197	254	257	256	250	242	258	247
Apparel	853	933	76	79	90	141	52	53	88	70	70	72	68	83	76
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	977	1,035	87	86	91	127	75	70	81	79	82	85	82	85	77
Automotive	4,018	4,232	344	322	302	331	304	305	388	360	389	386	369	413	357
Gasoline service stations	286	294	24	24	23	26	25	22	26	25	26	28	27	29	26
Lumber and building materials	1,677	1,713	148	152	134	135	116	104	137	148	155	140	143	155	138
Hardware and farm implements	228	234	19	19	18	22	17	15	20	20	21	21	19	23	19
Eating places	1,791	1,915	160	164	156	174	150	146	172	170	173	180	178	176	166
Drug stores	391	418	33	32	32	48	39	34	35	36	33	31	31	31	30
All other retail	1,533	1,641	128	132	148	234	130	125	139	125	133	126	119	129	129
Total sales by retail concerns	18,709	19,590	1,605	1,608	1,626	2,022	1,449	1,403	1,692	1,640	1,686	1,682	1,639	1,731	1,614
Nonretail & unclassified concerns	3,160	3,414	308	289	282	306	279	275	297	284	310	307	291	332	320
Total all sales at retail	21,868	23,004	1,913	1,896	1,908	2,328	1,728	1,679	1,989	1,923	1,996	1,989	1,930	2,063	1,933

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988				1989								
	1987	1988	Sept.	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.
TRADE CONTINUED															
Taxable retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[8] *($1,000)*															
MSAs															
Anniston	602,268	625,353	53,145	51,188	52,088	60,778	45,250	43,207	52,314	50,013	52,589	52,626	53,314	53,497	50,374
Birmingham	5,797,096	5,901,749	497,164	475,780	455,733	568,019	451,948	434,321	500,740	483,386	497,783	497,478	472,078	512,954	478,182
Decatur	649,766	685,596	56,214	57,790	56,800	68,618	50,116	46,029	56,579	56,326	58,666	57,426	56,245	59,493	54,391
Dothan	696,013	710,899	58,957	57,320	58,859	70,125	58,949	59,105	70,900	66,369	68,252	70,292	66,121	75,249	67,121
Florence	718,517	766,223	62,740	64,154	65,309	82,599	62,269	58,377	74,109	71,265	75,515	73,813	72,163	78,631	72,474
Gadsden	524,919	557,119	44,573	43,817	44,746	57,471	39,185	37,188	47,849	45,422	47,719	46,784	45,534	47,250	43,873
Huntsville	1,302,226	1,353,063	108,743	110,623	110,044	131,616	117,132	110,305	132,943	126,397	132,782	131,632	129,938	137,906	123,678
Mobile	2,312,321	2,355,304	192,002	190,968	183,339	226,551	201,351	189,931	222,131	216,545	220,619	223,499	227,888	229,778	211,297
Montgomery	1,719,824	1,781,059	148,273	143,171	144,488	180,760	153,472	143,529	175,591	164,727	170,087	168,395	164,707	179,686	156,528
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,952	64,040	62,316	63,326	76,627	60,892	59,713	63,289	63,006	67,015	69,232	64,822	69,939	65,704
Counties															
Autauga	122,285	129,020	10,745	10,596	9,853	11,714	13,180	12,250	14,096	14,617	14,773	15,171	14,620	15,114	14,417
Baldwin	374,180	389,862	31,613	30,940	27,878	32,293	35,259	33,968	43,529	43,674	44,849	47,929	50,406	48,271	42,171
Barbour	84,828	86,302	7,496	7,029	6,844	8,445	6,729	6,555	7,810	7,910	7,699	7,765	7,432	7,766	7,163
Bibb	51,658	51,762	4,367	4,361	4,647	4,431	3,436	3,306	3,719	3,868	3,806	3,958	3,655	3,788	3,880
Blount	110,515	114,936	9,633	9,663	10,085	10,506	8,460	8,258	10,051	9,867	10,531	9,900	9,689	10,272	9,449
Bullock	25,271	23,569	1,829	1,855	1,939	2,502	1,783	1,684	2,088	1,800	1,765	1,787	1,733	1,782	1,742
Butler	62,697	61,508	5,088	4,940	4,667	5,722	4,751	4,319	5,149	5,033	5,074	4,774	4,808	5,210	4,882
Calhoun	602,268	625,353	53,145	51,188	52,088	60,778	45,250	43,207	52,314	50,013	52,589	52,626	53,314	53,497	50,374
Chambers	125,636	124,966	10,137	10,208	10,164	10,431	9,832	9,882	11,460	11,293	11,401	11,776	11,155	11,661	11,226
Cherokee	51,230	54,698	4,356	4,400	4,552	4,641	4,965	4,897	5,933	6,005	5,942	6,039	5,584	6,244	5,661
Chilton	122,615	133,579	10,349	10,827	11,112	11,897	8,977	8,845	10,744	11,040	11,260	10,495	10,876	11,499	10,461
Choctaw	38,404	37,126	3,139	2,973	3,034	3,580	2,741	2,772	3,199	3,034	3,063	3,217	2,902	3,061	3,046
Clarke	104,604	105,838	9,081	8,513	8,297	9,759	7,727	7,589	8,726	8,931	9,008	9,134	8,751	9,018	7,568
Clay	31,968	32,924	2,600	2,835	2,603	3,032	2,834	2,769	2,921	2,708	3,001	3,003	2,788	3,217	2,972
Cleburne	26,929	28,828	2,523	2,439	2,302	2,639	2,620	2,203	2,716	2,384	3,043	2,450	2,754	3,057	2,639
Coffee	211,223	207,078	18,013	16,653	17,344	18,070	14,151	15,802	17,181	15,879	18,755	17,603	16,531	17,992	15,889
Colbert	293,782	315,529	26,075	27,647	26,715	30,599	27,596	25,916	31,038	30,410	32,244	31,408	30,253	33,914	30,356
Conecuh	32,476	29,652	2,725	2,199	2,533	2,694	3,095	2,499	3,012	2,839	2,966	2,667	2,882	2,895	2,636
Coosa	12,707	13,545	1,095	1,049	1,488	1,167	990	1,051	1,316	1,305	1,232	1,138	1,174	1,254	1,170
Covington	142,938	142,710	12,519	11,316	11,468	12,721	12,498	12,671	14,585	14,861	15,478	14,665	14,286	15,260	14,287
Crenshaw	40,376	41,017	3,757	3,464	3,358	3,781	3,502	3,553	4,051	3,415	3,693	3,349	3,633	3,787	3,843
Cullman	269,229	280,223	23,820	23,349	21,720	25,867	22,818	21,578	26,416	27,012	28,728	27,137	25,571	27,902	26,264
Dale	121,169	127,693	11,063	11,047	10,129	11,740	11,267	10,656	12,755	11,843	12,826	13,302	13,246	14,680	13,620
Dallas	219,565	218,695	17,761	17,683	18,142	19,965	15,234	14,780	17,785	17,497	18,723	16,908	16,585	18,183	15,450
DeKalb	212,053	227,288	19,279	19,197	18,392	20,800	15,050	14,937	18,303	18,304	18,514	18,857	18,085	19,500	18,770
Elmore	111,814	116,897	9,802	9,123	8,770	10,391	11,444	11,100	13,448	13,286	13,399	13,138	13,412	13,040	12,841
Escambia	136,495	138,394	11,853	10,843	10,578	13,144	9,315	9,258	10,824	11,520	11,272	11,081	10,567	11,205	10,073
Etowah	524,919	557,119	44,573	43,817	44,746	57,471	39,185	37,188	47,849	45,422	47,719	46,784	45,534	47,250	43,873
Fayette	66,589	65,808	5,357	5,284	5,191	6,907	4,450	4,431	5,443	4,745	5,272	5,269	5,262	5,405	4,996
Franklin	108,599	114,120	9,587	9,515	9,461	10,962	7,874	7,328	9,332	9,333	9,210	9,426	8,650	8,986	8,419
Geneva	131,414	119,895	9,858	9,801	11,415	10,724	4,640	4,484	5,210	5,031	5,106	5,002	4,663	5,404	4,981
Greene	18,730	19,837	1,764	1,619	1,642	1,583	1,806	1,727	2,008	2,080	2,037	1,867	2,122	2,325	1,976
Hale	30,315	29,379	2,533	2,524	2,415	2,573	2,565	2,505	2,822	2,871	3,187	2,819	2,997	3,194	2,884
Henry	41,338	43,945	4,055	3,958	3,958	4,308	3,290	3,557	3,730	3,606	3,533	3,878	3,128	4,110	3,829
Houston	574,844	583,206	47,894	46,273	48,730	58,385	47,682	48,449	58,145	54,526	55,426	56,990	52,875	60,569	53,501
Jackson	166,029	175,792	15,257	15,978	14,546	16,264	12,903	12,455	16,113	15,896	18,646	16,735	14,595	16,185	16,600
Jefferson	4,822,225	4,874,020	412,456	391,658	373,308	476,540	371,922	353,994	405,921	387,317	402,517	398,653	379,674	413,735	384,715
Lamar	37,102	34,236	2,831	2,746	2,847	3,454	2,887	2,783	3,521	3,324	3,394	3,149	3,075	3,302	3,291
Lauderdale	424,735	450,694	36,665	36,507	38,594	52,000	34,673	32,461	43,071	40,855	43,271	42,405	41,910	44,717	42,118
Lawrence	65,221	68,188	5,408	5,670	5,718	6,937	5,270	4,970	6,153	6,136	6,441	6,017	5,685	6,104	5,765
Lee	403,068	422,059	35,458	35,293	38,827	41,821	33,243	30,900	37,405	37,614	35,827	36,703	35,640	38,788	38,641
Limestone	195,876	203,248	16,253	17,330	15,721	19,465	15,893	14,881	18,501	18,313	19,783	18,885	17,663	18,941	18,311
Lowndes	21,658	22,210	2,023	1,597	1,845	2,448	1,651	1,778	2,153	1,917	2,053	2,207	1,879	2,084	2,097
Macon	53,662	50,189	4,254	3,614	3,499	3,921	4,853	4,834	5,659	5,325	5,498	5,572	5,626	6,219	5,845
Madison	1,302,226	1,353,063	108,743	110,623	110,044	131,616	117,132	110,305	132,943	126,397	132,782	131,632	129,938	137,906	123,678
Marengo	81,060	82,869	7,308	7,311	7,203	7,685	6,830	6,930	8,164	7,900	8,034	7,863	7,820	8,096	8,168
Marion	110,875	115,332	9,637	9,471	9,812	10,994	9,107	8,174	10,390	10,511	10,485	10,717	10,277	11,326	10,950
Marshall	427,632	447,551	36,949	36,117	37,279	42,237	32,262	31,383	40,111	39,872	41,965	39,934	38,846	42,039	39,278
Mobile	1,938,141	1,965,442	160,389	160,028	155,461	194,258	166,092	155,963	178,602	172,871	175,770	175,570	177,482	181,507	169,126
Monroe	73,217	78,198	6,594	6,267	6,805	7,603	7,439	7,316	9,298	8,348	8,898	8,420	9,031	9,675	8,806
Montgomery	1,485,725	1,535,142	127,726	123,452	125,865	158,655	128,848	120,179	148,047	136,824	141,915	140,086	136,675	151,532	129,270
Morgan	584,545	617,408	50,806	52,120	51,082	61,681	44,846	41,059	50,426	50,190	52,225	51,409	50,560	53,389	48,626
Perry	23,734	22,657	2,116	1,689	1,738	2,173	1,977	1,945	2,545	2,079	2,113	2,044	2,081	2,280	2,307
Pickens	42,458	42,090	3,226	3,401	3,453	3,925	3,771	3,692	4,462	4,518	4,658	4,536	4,045	4,490	4,301
Pike	115,053	118,110	10,665	9,646	9,346	10,804	11,383	10,418	12,422	11,631	11,509	12,128	11,053	12,457	11,677
Randolph	59,796	61,298	5,172	5,158	4,673	6,585	5,554	5,212	6,503	6,223	6,471	6,406	5,877	6,257	5,784
Russell	131,628	131,576	10,373	10,453	10,544	12,683	11,152	11,381	13,576	13,949	14,593	13,977	13,314	13,498	11,789
St. Clair	151,136	151,410	12,586	11,919	11,647	13,950	10,816	11,448	13,525	13,753	13,517	14,226	12,614	13,842	13,209
Shelby	349,404	372,773	30,549	31,071	29,489	31,315	32,716	32,978	39,135	39,568	38,830	39,996	38,444	40,872	38,215
Sumter	32,578	33,488	2,621	3,003	2,991	3,100	2,939	2,766	3,437	3,087	3,201	3,229	2,965	3,292	3,106
Talladega	299,552	323,054	26,730	25,786	24,737	30,182	26,750	26,369	32,811	29,688	34,800	31,182	32,893	31,814	29,286
Tallapoosa	152,999	156,650	12,597	12,389	12,758	13,812	9,871	9,399	11,688	11,616	12,434	12,361	12,239	12,988	13,870
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,952	64,040	62,316	63,326	76,627	60,892	59,713	63,289	63,006	67,015	69,232	64,822	69,939	65,704
Walker	363,816	388,610	31,940	31,469	31,204	35,708	28,034	27,643	32,108	32,881	32,388	34,703	31,657	34,233	32,594
Washington	22,573	22,116	1,687	1,791	1,650	1,834	1,902	1,860	2,122	2,446	2,157	2,121	2,283	2,170	2,189
Wilcox	23,251	20,469	1,594	1,696	1,714	2,124	2,147	1,986	2,379	2,177	2,134	2,123	2,068	2,043	2,184
Winston	97,401	97,344	7,842	8,268	7,858	8,956	6,736	6,121	6,978	7,790	8,411	8,105	8,124	8,549	8,537
Statewide[e]	1,839,693	2,407,385	200,549	221,503	253,962	330,352	98,241	119,346	135,637	131,269	134,761	143,007	137,455	148,311	166,065

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding.

[1] Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data.

[2] Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data.

[3] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of Dodge/DRI Construction and Real Estate Information Service.

[4] Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year.

[5] Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.

[6] Gross gallons of gasoline as reported by wholesale distributors.

[7] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

[8] Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. ***Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters.*** Retail sales historical data prior to 1984 are not available for the new series. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual countries; it does not represent a state total. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms.

Alabama by the Numbers...

The ***Economic Abstract of Alabama***, 1989 edition, is the most comprehensive source of demographic and economic information available about Alabama and its counties. Business, government, the news media - those who need to know about the state and its people - have come to rely on ***The Economic Abstract of Alabama*** to fulfill their needs for quantitative information.

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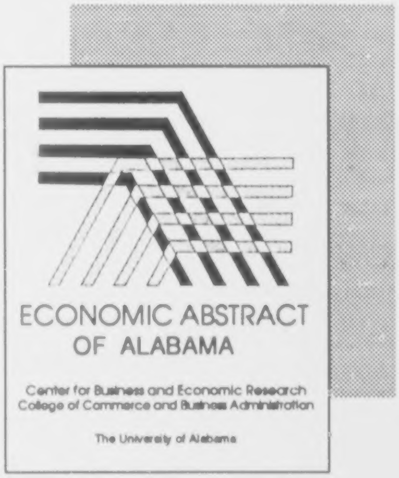

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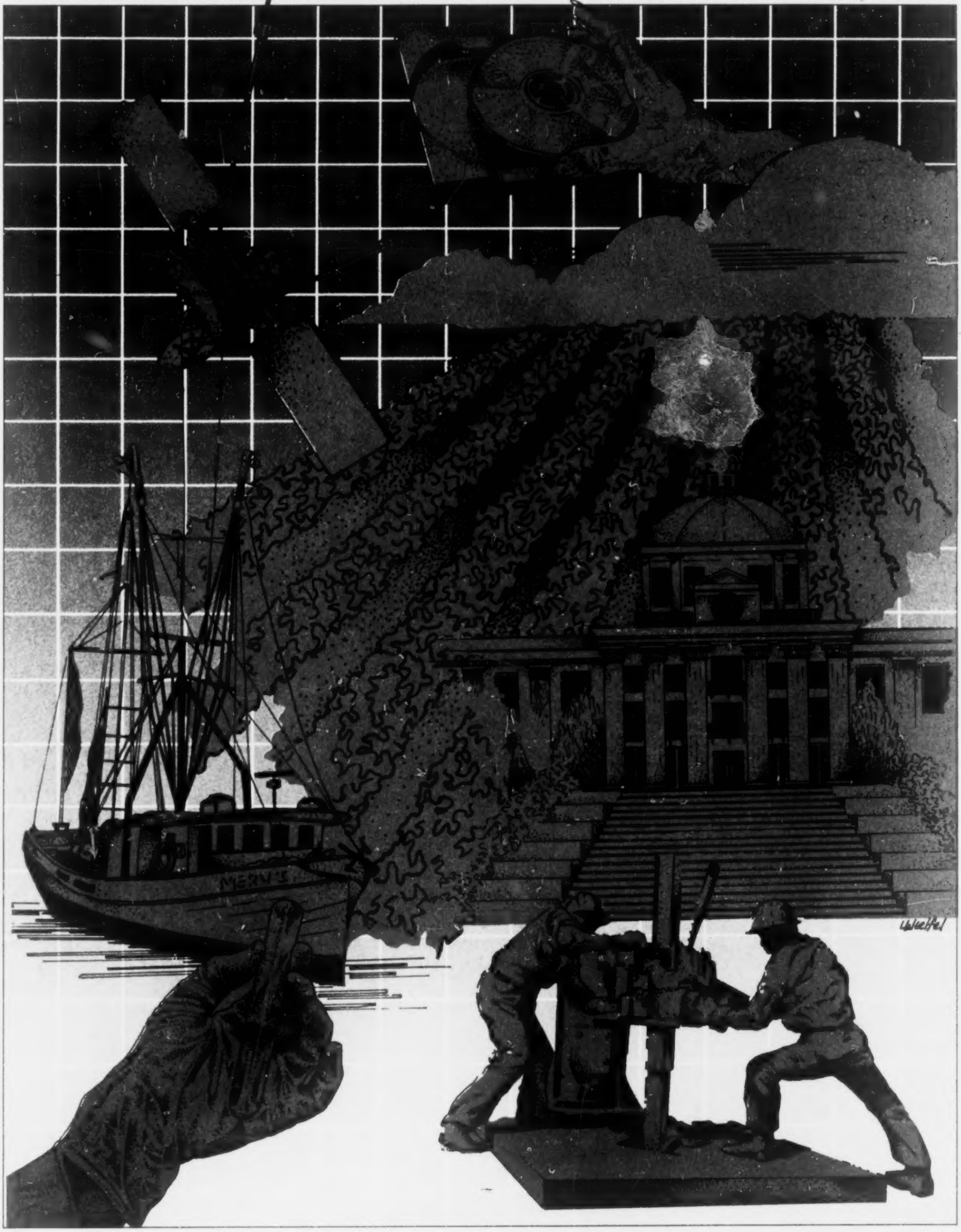

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All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, ***Alabama Business***, Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone: (205) 348-6191.

Historical Trends in *Alabama Retail Sales...*

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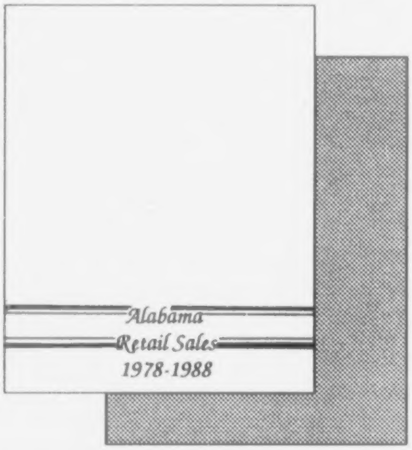

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HEALTH CARE IN ALABAMA

Robert W. McLeod and
Edward M. Smith

Introduction

There are many factors which businesses, investors, and others take into consideration when making the decision to locate in a particular state. Among the more important factors are the policies and infrastructure designed to foster human resource development. In Alabama, like our sister states, we are faced with the problems of upgrading both the quality and skill level of our work force. In order to solve these problems the state has directed its efforts toward the three major aspects of human resource development: education, welfare, and health care. Although progress has been made in the area of educational reforms, there is still a tremendous amount of work left undone in the areas of health and welfare.

The health care delivery system in Alabama affects not only the health status of our population, but other social, political, educational, and economic systems as well. Poor health status produces students who have more learning problems. Those with lower levels of education are more likely to have difficulty in taking care of their personal health needs when they are adults. The employee with poor health is more likely to be absent from the job and to have lower productivity. As one might expect, poor health status is a vicious cycle which results in less education followed by lower earnings and a reduced ability to know when and how to respond to one's health needs.

The quality of health care for any geographical area or income subgroup cannot be judged by state averages. Alabama has areas of excellence, including a world class medical center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and also areas of need, resulting from a maldistribution of health resources and reduced access.

Ultimately, the health care system must be judged by its quality and the access which is accorded to the citizens. There should be a proper match between the inventory of health resources and the health needs of the population which those resources are to serve.

Quality is, of course, to be judged on the basis of outcomes. The end results of medical intervention should be the elimination of illness, the saving of lives, and the improvement of the mental, physical, and emotional well being of those served.

Access, on the other hand, refers to the degree to which those who need health care are able to receive it. Access for some citizens may be determined largely by the availability of transportation; for others, it may be a matter of health insurance. The location of resources and the degree to which the citizens are insured, or have other entitlements, are primary factors in determining the availability of health care when and where it is needed.

In order to develop health care policies which will aid the economic growth and development of Alabama, one has to understand how the health resources of the health care delivery system vary within the state and region. Among the variables that affect the location of a site for a new business or the expansion of an existing one is the availability of quality, affordable health care for the managers and employees. In an attempt to recruit new industry, local officials in many areas of the state are faced with the problem of convincing the prospective developer that the health care needs of the employees can be adequately served. This is difficult to accomplish if there is a shortage of medical resources (health professionals and facilities) in the area.

Health Resources

Based upon a review of health care resources, Alabama is clearly a state of contrasts. In the major cities and metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) throughout the state there appears to be an adequate supply of skilled health care providers and medical facilities. However, in the rural areas major problems exist. It is here that we see most vividly the high interaction between a low level of economic activity, a shortage of health resources, and low income levels.

Physician Supply

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Alabama was ranked 43d out of the 50 states and the District of Columbia in terms of the number of nonfederal physicians per 100,000 civilian population in 1985. Alabama was next to last when compared to the contiguous states of Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Twenty-seven counties in Alabama were designated "Health Manpower Shortage Areas" in 1988 based upon an unacceptably low ratio of primary physicians (general or family practitioner, internist, pediatrician, or obstetrician/

gynecologist) to population. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services assigns a county to a level of shortage if the physician/population ratio is greater than 1:3,000. Seven counties were designated as Level 1 based upon more than 5,000 people for each primary care physician. Coosa County had the greatest need with 11,700 people for each primary care physician. In 1985 the primary care physician to population ratio in the United States was 1:962.[1]

It is apparent that there are serious shortages of physicians in many rural areas of Alabama. It is also clear that there is a correlation between the health needs and the economic problems of these areas. A higher level of development of one is necessary for significant improvement in the other. It is probably true that progress in economic development will not be sufficient alone to change the distribution pattern of physicians, but the interrelationships between the two should be kept in mind as policy makers attempt to develop solutions for one or the other of these problems.

Nurses

The Registered Nurse (RN) shortage is a problem that faces both rural and urban hospitals. The demand for nurses is to a great extent a derived demand. Physicians and hospitals require the services of nurses in order to achieve their professional missions. The difficulty in recruiting and retaining nurses in a rural health care setting is not significantly different from the problem facing urban health care providers.

When solutions are found to the problems of low occupancy rates and the physician shortage in rural hospitals, then greater numbers of nurses will be attracted to rural areas of the state. The major problems contributing to the shortage of nurses are structural in nature and will be best solved on a national level. Salary compression, low status, overwork, and poorly delineated education/training requirements are problems unique to nursing, and these problems must be worked out by the profession in conjunction with the major employers and the physicians.

Allied Health Professionals

The shortage of physicians and nurses is exacerbated by the inability of rural hospitals to recruit and retain qualified professionals in such areas as occupational and physical therapy, as well as laboratory and radiology technicians due to the limited volume of work.

In order to address these problems some schools of allied health are providing multi-skill training for these jobs. A program may produce a person who is qualified in radiology therapy as well as laboratory procedures. Part of the problem is a mismatch between the training of the allied health professionals and the needs of rural hospitals. Another, and perhaps larger, part of the problem relates to the generally poor fiscal health of the rural hospital which faces falling demand and declining revenues.

Hospitals

From 1981 to 1987 the occupancy rates in Alabama went from 75.8 percent to 56.4 percent for MSA hospitals and from 59.1 percent to 46.9 percent for rural county hospitals. If the hospital closings in 1988 were taken into consideration, the decline would be more significant in the rural areas.[2]

As a result of the declining occupancy rates, 16 hospitals have closed in Alabama over the last 10 years with 11 of them in the last two years. Most of these hospitals were relatively small and located in rural areas. According to State Health Planning Agency data, there are about 14 rural hospitals of 100 or fewer beds considered to be in critical financial condition with occupancy rates of 24 percent or less. There are another 29 in serious condition with occupancy rates of between 25 and 40 percent.

Among the reasons mentioned most often as the cause of hospital closings are the following:

(1) Low occupancy rates,

(2) Inadequate Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement,

(3) Excessive charity care,

(4) Difficulty in recruiting and retaining physicians; and, in some cases,

(5) Lack of community support.[3]

Health Care Problems

Health care in the United States is in trouble. Already consuming over 11 percent of GNP, it shows no signs of slowing down. At the same time there are large numbers of individuals who have questionable access because they lack any kind of public or private insurance. Although the problems of providing health care for the medically uninsured, planning for the needs of an aging population, and lowering infant mortality are national as well as state problems, they are ones which will have a major impact on the overall quality of health in this country and state.

The Medically Uninsured

Nationwide 12.9 percent of the population, or 31.1 million Americans, were not covered by some form of private or public insurance in 1987 (Table 1). Other estimates of the number of uninsured in the United States range up to 37 million, or 16 to 17 percent of the population.[4] The uninsured are frequently classified as the medically uninsurable, the unemployed uninsured, and the employed uninsured.

The medically uninsurable category includes those persons who, because of serious pre-existing conditions, cannot purchase private insurance at any cost. A second group of uninsured persons are those who are unemployed and medically uninsured.

In this mixed group are individuals who are basically healthy but are out of work, the homeless, and those who have been released to the community from mental institutions.

The employed uninsured group includes primarily those individuals working for organizations which do not offer a group health care insurance benefit to their employees. Most employees purchase health insurance when it is made available by employers.

As can be determined from Table 1, the medically uninsurable and the unemployed uninsured represented only a small part of the total uninsured group in 1987. More than 80 percent of the uninsured were employed full- or part-time for the full year or part of the year or were dependents of employed persons. In fact, more than half of the employed uninsured were employed in the retail or service trades. For those working in construction or agriculture, the probability of being uninsured was more than 25 percent. The employed uninsured were predominantly self-employed or worked for small business firms.[5]

The percentage distribution of establishments by number of employees and the percentage distribution of employees by the size of establishment in Alabama in 1986 closely matched the distribution for the United States for 1987. Nationally the probability of being employed and uninsured in 1987 in businesses with one to 24 employees was 23.4 percent and for those with 25 to 99 employees the probability was 16.6 percent. A conservative estimate for the number of employed uninsured persons in establishments under 100 employees for Alabama for 1986 is 130,654. (This figure is derived by applying 1987 U.S. percentages [Moyer] to Alabama employment data for 1986.)

More than one in five of the uninsured (21.8 percent) were under 15 years of age. Many of these were children of employed persons with individual health insurance coverage but who were unable to purchase family coverage.

Table 1, which projects Alabama uninsured on the basis of the national averages, most certainly understates the uninsured problem in the state. Of those in the United States who claimed either public or private insurance in 1987, almost nine percent were covered by Medicaid. In 1985 over nine percent of Alabamians (381,000) were covered by Medicaid.[6] The closeness of the state and national percentage coverage is misleading. In the nation as a whole, 13.5 percent of the population lived below the poverty line in 1987, while in Alabama almost one in four people was in that group.[7]

In 1986 there were 991,000 Alabamians living below the poverty line ($985/month for a family of four). Approximately 35 percent of those living below the poverty line in Alabama were receiving Medicaid, but the AFC payment cutoff level for a family of four was $147 a month, about 15 percent of the poverty level and higher only than

TABLE 1.

UNINSURED POPULATION, UNITED STATES
PROJECTED TO ALABAMA
1987

	U.S. No. of Uninsured (Millions)	Percent of Total U.S. Uninsured	Projected Alabama Uninsured*
Total	31.1	100.0	539,982
Under 15 years of age	6.8	21.8	117,716
In families with incomes above 185% of poverty level	12.8	41.1	221,933
Employed full or part time	16.6	53.3	287,810
Employed or dependents of employed	25.1	80.5	437,686

Source: M. Eugene Moyer, "A Revised Look at the Number of Uninsured Americans," *Health Affairs*, 8(2), Summer 1989, 102-110.

*"Projected Alabama Uninsured" derived by applying national percentages to Alabama population data.

Mississippi in the United States. Recently mandated coverage to families with income under 133% of the poverty level should reduce this problem--other options include mandated coverage for all employees or a national prgram of health care.

Finally, risk pools have been established in some states. Under this arrangement all companies selling private health insurance within the state are required to participate in providing health insurance to those who ordinarily would not qualify. Rates are adjusted upward to reflect the higher cost of providing insurance for this group of people.

Health Care and the Elderly

A state's medical needs are closely tied to the age distribution of its population. The amount and type of medical services required are determined in large part by the age distribution of the population. Alabama, like the rest of the United States, is experiencing an increasingly larger percentage of the population 65 years or older.

Diseases of the elderly tend to be chronic as compared to acute, episodic illnesses of the younger population. Because of their chronic conditions, lack of mobility, and lack of caregivers, the elderly are more likely to require long term care. Special health needs of the elderly are hospital discharge planning, intermediate and skilled nursing care, home health care, case management, geriatricians, homemaker services, monitoring services, mobility, and housing.

The 65-years-or-older group used 2.7 to 3.7 times the health services of the total population with the exception of nursing home care, in which the usage was 6.7 times as great as the total population. Six percent of the persons 65-years-or-older are in nursing homes, but 22 percent of those 85 years or older are in nursing homes.[9] The average age of a nursing home resident is 78. One of the greatest tests of the health care system will be to provide long term care for the elderly population. As the very old population grows, this group will use more of all health services. But the supply of physicians, the availability of hospital rooms, and the availability of other personal health care services are not likely to present major problems. However, the enormous increase in the need for nursing home beds (or long term care alternatives) constitutes a pressing imperative.

Infant Mortality

Infant mortality has been falling in the United States and the industrialized countries of the world for the past 75 years.[10] Improved sanitation, improved prenatal services, more wide-spread immunization programs, and improved access and utilization of health care are largely responsible for the falling rate.

Even though the improvement in the United States in the past 25 years has been very significant, many other countries have decreased their infant mortality more dramatically. From 1965 to 1984 the U.S. infant morality dropped by more than 50 percent from 24.7 per 1,000 to 10.6 per 1,000.[11] However, the United States dropped from sixth position in the mid-1950s among the industrialized counties to a tie for sixteenth place in 1986. Alabama's infant mortality rate of 13.9 placed it at the bottom of the 50 states in 1986. This rate placed the state below the countries of Spain and Italy.[12] Higher infant mortality rates are associated with underweight babies, teenage mothers, lack of prenatal care, and low educational achievement by the mothers.[13]

As shown in Table 2, of the 59,558 babies born in Alabama in 1987, 726 died before their first birthday. Underweight babies (under 2,500 grams) are at greater risk for physical and mental disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, mental retardation, blindness, deafness, and death. A total of 4,790 (8.0 percent of total live births) underweight babies were born in Alabama in 1987. Teenage mothers are more likely to give birth to underweight babies, and this group of mothers represented 17.4 percent of the total in 1987. Of every four babies born in 1987 one was born to a mother who had not completed 12 years of education. The mortality rate for infants whose mothers had no prenatal health care visits was four times as high as the average. In 1987, 1,047 babies were born to

TABLE 2. BIRTHS AND SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILD AND MOTHER, ALABAMA 1987

	Number	Percent
Total Births	59,558	100.0
Died before first birthday	726	1.2
Underweight at birth (less than 2,500 g.)	4,790	8.0
Born to teenage mothers	10,354	17.4
Born to mothers who had not completed 12 years of educations	15,707	26.4
Born to mothers who had not received any prenatal care	1,047	1.8

Source: *Facts for Alabamians, 1987*, Alabama Department of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health Services, undated.

mothers who had received no prenatal care.

A large number of mothers give birth in counties other than the one of their residence. In 1987 there were 28 counties in Alabama with no hospital delivery services (Table 3). These counties are predominantly rural and poor.

The dimensions of the problem of infant mortality and the associated problem of teenage mothers are known. Developing affordable solutions is difficult. It is clear that teenage females should be targeted with educational programs. Birth to this group of females is associated not only with a higher rate of infant mortality, but the babies are more likely to be physically or mentally handicapped.

TABLE 3. ALABAMA COUNTIES WITH NO HOSPITAL DELIVERY SERVICES 1987

1. Autauga
2. Barbour
3. Bibb
4. Blount
5. Bullock
6. Butler
7. Choctaw
8. Cherokee
9. Cleburne
10. Conecuh
11. Coosa
12. Cullman
13. Dale
14. Elmore
15. Escambia
16. Fayette
17. Geneva
18. Henry
19. Lamar
20. Lawrence
21. Lowndes
22. Perry
23. Pickens
24. Shelby
25. Sumter
26. Washington
27. Wilcox
28. Winston

Source: *County Health Department Prenatal Services and Counties With No Hospital Delivery Services*, November 18, 1987, from ADPH, Division of Family Health Services.

Economics Of Rural Alabama

An analysis of the rural areas reveals certain characteristics which have exacerbated their health care problems. One factor is the lower than average per capita earnings relative to urban areas. Others include (1) higher unemployment rates; (2) a higher proportion of elderly residents who are generally on low fixed incomes and/or eligible for Medicaid or Medicare; and (3) a higher infant and maternal mortality rate. There is, however, no evidence of a significant difference in the prevalence of serious chronic health problems in the rural areas.[14]

The lower than average income can be attributed to a number of problems associated with the types of employment available in the rural areas of most states. Employment by the manufacturing sector tends to be by firms that require labor intensive operations such as textiles, apparel, and wood products. These areas have been hurt by the increase in foreign competition and the relatively strong dollar.

The other major source of employment is in the agricultural industry. Although foreign competition still remains one of the major problems for the farmer, the overproduction which occurs as a result of government subsidies tends to keep prices down. As a result of the lower incomes available from farming, the concept of the traditional family farm is changing.

In order to increase family incomes many farmers have switched to part-time farming coupled with full-time employment in another industry. In many cases this results in commuting to an urban area for employment. These commutes can result in a shift of expenditures from rural to urban areas for goods and services, including nonemergency medical services.

The lower than average income levels have an effect on the revenue available to the county and city governments. This limitation on revenues has an obvious bearing on the level of support for health care. Many of the local governments in rural areas are also faced with a declining or stagnant rate of growth in population which adversely affects the revenue base. The higher unemployment rates in the rural areas of the state also result in increased indigence, which further drains the resources of the health care delivery system.

The relatively greater number of the elderly in the rural areas of the state also presents a problem for the health care delivery system. Under the current Medicare Prospective Pricing System, rural hospitals receive lower payments than urban hospitals. According to some studies the difference can be as much as 40 to 50 percent lower.[15]

Summary And Conclusions

The health care problems in Alabama in many ways parallel those of other states in the region. There is a large geographical area of the state that is thinly populated, suffers from high rates of unemployment, has a larger share of indigent patients, has third world rates of infant mortality, and lacks adequate health care professionals and facilities. The problem facing Alabama is how to break the cycle of poverty and then create an economic environment which will support an adequate level of medical services in the rural areas of the state.

One key element in attracting and retaining health care professionals in the rural areas of the state is to revitalize the rural hospital as a focal point of primary health care delivery in rural counties. In order to do so the following problems must continue to be addressed:

(1) Inadequate Diagnosis Related Groups (DRG) reimbursement,

(2) Recalculate urban/rural differences to reflect actual costs differentials,

(3) Enhance state Medicaid reimbusement programs,

(4) Make better use of facilities with low occupancy rates, and

(5) Develop a coordinated approach to economic development in the rural areas which includes the health care delivery system as an integral component.

The trend of increased hospital closings, high infant mortality, and lack of adequate health care in our rural counties cannot be allowed to continue. The lack of an adequate rural health care delivery system exacerbates the problems of high unemployment and the declining economic base of these areas. The local hospital should be the key to a better life for those in the rural communities. The ability to support these hospitals will depend upon a coordinated effort of the medical community, local citizens, the state and federal government. No one of these groups can solve the problem by itself.

NOTES

[1] F. Lawrence Clare, Enell Spratley, Paul Schwab, and John K. Inglehart. "Trends in Health Personnel." *Health Affairs*, (Winter 1987): 90-103.

[2] Vickey Williams, "Hospitals in Crisis, Parts I and II," *Alabama Living*. June and July 1989, 10ff and 11ff respectively.

[3] Alabama Hospital Association, *Guide to the Health Care Field*, 1988 and prior editions.

[4] Susan S. Daudicina, "State Health Risk Pools: Insuring the 'Uninsurable'", *Health Affairs*, 7(4), Fall 1988, 97-104.

[5] M. Eugene Moyer, "A Revised Look at the Number of Uninsured Americans," *Health Affairs*, 8(2), Summer 1989, 102-110.

[6] *Alabama Medicaid Agency Report to the Blue Ribbon Committee to Study Uncompensated Care*, 1986, 8.

[7] *Ibid.*, Attachment, "Current Payment Standards."

[8] *Ibid.*, p. 8.

[9] "Older Americans' Health," *Statistical Bulletin*, (Apr-June, 1988): 10-17.

[10] "Infant Mortality, 1986: National and International Differences." *Statistical Bulletin*, (Apr-June, 1988): 2-9.

[11] Arthur Barsky, "The Paradox of Health," *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 318(5), 4 Feb. 1988, 317-319.

[12] "Infant Mortality," p. 2-8.

[13] "Facts for Alabamians, 1987," Alabama Department of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health Services.

[14] Alabama Hospital Association. *The Small and/or Rural Source Document*, 1989, p. 1.

[15] *Ibid.*, Exhibit 2.

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Robert W. McLeod is an Associate Professor of Finance and Edward M. Smith is a Professor of Marketing in College of Commerce and Business Administration at The University of Alabama.

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988			1989									
	1987	1988	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production[1] *(1,000 net tons)*	24,870	26,055	2,360	2,311	2,393	2,478	2,394	2,765	2,426	2,575	2,077	1,506	2,156	2,072	2,215
Natural gas production *(1,000,000 cu. ft.)*	155,990	176,008	15,160	14,782	16,141	16,717	14,672	16,342	15,407	15,937	15,340	16,020	15,498	14,559	13,492
Cotton consumption *(1,000 lbs.)*	483,311	482,002	41,496	39,776	37,268	41,932	39,300	45,356	41,760	49,634	48,418	38,372	54,134	48,285	48,891
Crude oil and condensate production[2] *(1,000 barrels)*	20,621	20,597	1,706	1,691	1,745	1,547	1,556	1,750	1,700	1,734	1,671	1,737	1,754	1,640	1,498
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	24,675	26,008	2,198	2,210	2,120	2,098	2,155	2,174	2,247	2,319	2,224	2,214	2,382	2,172	
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production *(1,000 net tons)*	6,904	6,977	579	531	595	619	551	583	613	574	578	633	596	591	601
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] *($1,000)*	3,114,400	3,533,400	266,300	241,700	236,300	193,000	238,000	224,300	213,700	262,300	238,700	344,300	190,700	262,800	309,500
Residential	1,340,300	1,145,200	89,700	82,200	90,800	69,700	82,300	89,700	97,700	99,200	118,000	112,200	94,100	97,600	132,300
Nonresidential	1,009,700	1,453,200	108,100	81,700	78,400	107,600	57,400	89,300	62,300	112,700	86,100	136,900	53,100	112,300	132,500
Public works and utilities	764,300	935,100	68,600	77,800	67,100	15,600	98,300	45,500	53,600	50,400	34,600	95,100	43,500	52,900	44,900
Cement consumption *(1,000 net tons)*	1,401	1,398	126	115	111	93	76	111	123	126	100	106	134	105	133
TAX COLLECTIONS															
Title of Tax *($1,000)*															
Total	3,052,983	3,184,030	242,778	270,761	255,829	271,830	260,683	333,788	330,038	342,359	283,213	249,133	276,960	298,822	255,757
Franchise	85,027	81,609	1,189	464	573	757	2,135	55,015	3,217	1,477	5,560	1,254	684	2,745	869
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	213,006	220,608	19,000	17,717	20,244	19,904	17,293	17,125	17,397	21,422	20,102	19,721	19,416	20,516	18,151
Income	1,249,376	1,296,181	65,791	120,789	106,266	86,088	133,760	138,344	150,169	184,870	128,874	66,919	132,451	130,327	67,627
Motor fuels	56,856	60,244	4,865	7,179	4,967	5,202	5,055	5,909	4,198	6,592	4,607	5,068	5,391	4,689	6,762
Oil/gas privilege	35,150	35,493	2,444	2,688	2,639	3,154	2,436	3,207	2,879	3,462	6,203	3,116	3,276	2,977	2,891
Oil/gas production	9,962	10,432	731	885	856	861	721	948	828	1,046	1,701	905	964	914	868
Sales	810,128	844,582	71,097	72,229	77,565	80,724	62,558	71,945	67,748	82,276	76,227	73,188	74,636	76,818	76,912
2.2% gross receipts	57,351	59,202	15,039	108	8	14,762	312	1	14,641	422	30	15,056	0	35	15,022
TVA electric	47,383	52,522	5,449	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	4,545	1,411
Tobacco	72,605	71,847	6,261	5,650	6,477	5,596	5,359	5,499	5,962	6,082	6,225	5,935	5,877	5,422	5,949
Use	88,397	97,843	21,941	1,577	1,302	22,706	1,847	1,315	20,350	2,212	932	22,136	2,074	684	23,094
Utility	165,984	171,014	13,604	14,143	14,517	15,968	15,032	14,754	13,333	13,527	13,794	16,700	15,692	15,320	13,236
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index, U.S. *(1982-84 = 100)*															
All items	113.6	118.3	120.2	120.3	120.5	121.1	121.6	122.3	123.1	123.8	124.1	124.4	124.6	125.0	125.6
Percent change	4.3	4.3	.3	.1	.2	.5	.4	.6	.7	.6	.2	.2	.2	.3	.5
Food	113.5	118.2	120.3	120.2	120.7	122.2	122.9	123.5	124.2	124.9	125.0	125.5	125.8	126.1	126.5
Housing	114.2	118.5	119.9	119.9	120.2	120.7	121.1	121.5	121.6	122.1	122.9	123.9	124.2	124.3	124.4
Fuel and utilities	103.0	104.4	105.4	104.3	105.0	106.0	105.9	105.9	106.2	107.0	109.2	109.7	109.7	109.7	108.0
Apparel and upkeep	110.6	115.4	120.7	119.9	118.0	115.3	115.3	119.3	120.9	120.4	117.8	115.0	115.0	120.0	122.7
Transportation	105.4	108.7	110.0	110.7	110.8	111.1	111.6	111.9	114.6	116.0	115.9	115.4	114.3	113.7	114.5
Medical care	130.1	138.6	141.2	141.8	142.3	143.8	145.2	146.1	146.8	147.5	148.5	149.7	150.7	151.7	152.7
Energy	88.6	89.3	89.9	88.9	88.7	89.0	89.3	89.8	94.9	97.4	99.0	98.5	97.0	95.9	94.6
Producer Price Index, U.S. *(1982 = 100)*															
All commodities	102.8	106.9	108.2	108.3	109.0	110.5	110.8	111.5	112.3	113.2	112.9	112.7	112.0	112.3	112.7
Industrial commodities	102.6	106.3	107.1	107.5	108.1	109.6	110.1	110.6	111.8	112.4	112.4	112.2	111.4	111.9	112.4
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S.															
As measured by															
Consumer prices *(1982-84 = $1.000)*	880	846	832	831	830	826	822	818	812	808	806	804	803	800	796
Wholesale prices *(1982 = $1.000)*	973	935	924	923	917	905	903	897	890	883	886	887	893	890	887
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT[4]															
Civilian labor force *(1,000 workers)*	1,895.0	1,887.0	1,906.7	1,914.9	1,917.2	1,897.6	1,888.8	1,908.9	1,892.1	1,911.8	1,931.7	1,953.1	1,954.6	1,951.1	1,953.3
Unemployment	147.0	136.0	129.1	138.6	147.3	161.7	144.9	140.4	126.1	119.6	144.3	151.9	148.6	134.8	126.1
Unemployment rate	7.8	7.2	6.8	7.2	7.7	8.5	7.7	7.4	6.7	6.3	7.5	7.8	7.6	6.9	6.5
Employment	1,748.0	1,751.0	1,777.6	1,776.3	1,769.9	1,735.9	1,743.9	1,768.5	1,766.0	1,792.2	1,787.4	1,801.2	1,806.0	1,816.3	1,827.2
Nonagricultural	1,507.7	1,551.3	1,560.9	1,585.9	1,573.8	1,549.8	1,556.0	1,559.5	1,566.9	1,578.7	1,575.2	1,571.3	1,576.1	1,577.0	1,587.9
Manufacturing	368.8	378.9	380.7	382.0	380.6	381.0	383.8	382.7	385.3	385.7	387.4	383.0	387.7	387.2	386.6
Durable goods	178.0	184.4	186.8	187.2	187.0	186.9	187.5	187.0	188.6	189.2	189.0	187.0	188.9	189.9	188.9
Lumber and wood products	29.9	30.4	30.7	30.6	30.4	30.3	30.3	30.5	30.7	30.8	31.0	30.5	30.4	30.3	30.3
Stone, clay, glass products	9.7	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	9.9	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.9
Primary metals	25.5	27.0	27.6	27.7	27.8	27.9	28.1	28.0	28.2	28.2	28.3	27.5	27.8	28.2	28.3
Fabricated metals	22.0	21.5	21.3	21.3	21.2	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.6	21.6	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.7	21.9
Machinery (excl. electrical)	21.6	26.8	27.7	27.8	28.1	27.7	28.0	28.2	28.5	28.5	28.4	28.4	28.7	28.5	28.4
Electrical, electronic equip.	22.5	20.4	20.7	20.9	20.4	20.7	20.8	20.1	20.6	21.1	20.6	21.0	21.2	21.4	21.4
Transportation	28.6	29.5	29.7	29.7	29.9	29.9	29.9	29.7	29.8	30.3	30.6	29.8	31.2	31.4	30.0
Other durable goods	18.2	18.7	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.7	18.8	18.9	19.1	18.6	18.7	18.3	18.2	18.6	18.7
Nondurable goods	190.8	194.5	193.9	194.8	193.6	194.1	196.3	195.7	196.7	196.5	198.4	196.0	198.8	197.3	197.7
Food	31.2	32.2	32.8	32.8	32.6	32.6	33.0	32.7	33.6	33.8	34.4	34.9	35.1	35.2	35.1
Textile mill products	39.0	40.4	40.6	40.7	40.9	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.8	40.4	40.8	40.4	41.0	41.1	41.3
Apparel	55.9	56.2	55.1	55.0	54.2	54.9	56.5	56.0	56.2	56.3	57.0	54.6	56.0	55.7	55.1
Paper and allied products	21.1	21.1	20.8	21.7	21.3	21.1	20.9	21.0	20.9	21.1	21.4	21.5	21.9	21.5	21.5
Printing and publishing	12.7	12.7	12.5	12.8	13.0	13.1	13.2	13.2	13.0	13.0	12.9	12.8	12.8	12.9	12.9
Chemicals and allied products	11.2	11.1	11.1	11.1	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.5	11.4
Rubber products	17.5	18.6	18.7	18.4	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.5	18.4	18.2	18.1	17.9	18.1	16.9	17.9
Other nondurable goods	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Nonmanufacturing	1,138.9	1,172.4	1,180.2	1,203.9	1,193.2	1,168.8	1,172.2	1,176.8	1,181.6	1,193.0	1,187.8	1,188.3	1,188.4	1,189.8	1,201.3
Mining and quarrying	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.4	6.3	11.2	11.4	11.5
Bituminous coal mining	8.1	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	2.3	7.2	7.3	7.3
Contract construction	75.1	77.4	78.2	77.0	76.5	71.4	72.1	73.2	74.3	75.2	74.9	75.1	75.5	75.1	75.6
Trans., comm., and utilities	73.3	79.0	79.0	79.2	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.7	[illegible]	79.5	79.5	79.9	80.0	79.5	79.1
Trade	331.7	339.5	344.0	347.8	355.2	344.7	341.6	341.9	[illegible]	344.1	345.5	345.3	345.3	346.0	347.5
Wholesale	78.4	79.5	80.4	80.1	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.4	80.7	80.8	81.3	81.5	81.5	81.7	81.8
Retail	253.3	259.9	263.6	267.7	274.9	264.7	261.6	261.5	262.5	263.3	264.2	263.8	263.8	264.3	265.7
Finance, insurance, real estate	70.5	70.2	70.6	70.6	70.8	70.2	70.6	71.1	71.1	71.3	71.6	71.8	71.8	71.6	71.7
Service and miscellaneous	276.5	286.1	289.3	289.8	290.9	282.1	284.0	285.9	287.5	294.8	295.1	297.1	296.5	298.1	298.3
Government	300.6	308.9	307.8	328.1	309.4	309.8	313.3	313.7	314.8	316.8	309.8	312.8	308.1	308.1	317.6
Federal	65.9	65.6	65.0	64.9	64.2	63.8	63.9	63.8	63.9	64.2	65.1	65.2	65.3	65.2	65.4
State and local	234.7	243.4	242.8	263.2	245.2	246.0	249.4	249.9	250.9	252.6	244.7	247.6	242.8	242.9	252.2

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988			1989									
	1987	1988	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	224,282	240,540	21,985	20,729	16,488	24,750	19,639	23,116	17,324	22,609	25,182	26,475	28,171	25,196	25,466
Nonagricultural placements	96,391	107,113	8,553	8,494	6,711	6,593	7,002	8,377	7,345	9,439	8,911	16,284	12,821	10,258	9,621
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	349,204	348,271	24,517	25,161	28,031	59,343	23,782	24,455	19,828	23,235	25,370	46,377	26,522	19,703	22,916
Payments *($1,000)*	165,953	140,632	9,492	11,406	12,412	16,421	13,471	15,505	11,260	11,636	12,656	13,367	14,455	10,615	10,919
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	16,116 7.0	15,782 6.1	16,080 6.7	16,240 7.8	16,090 7.0	15,800 6.9	15,990 7.6	16,050 6.2	15,920 6.4	16,120 6.7	16,130 7.7	16,230 7.4	16,440 9.0	16,440 8.4	16,410 7.8
Baldwin	39,863 7.6	39,573 8.1	39,390 7.4	39,790 7.8	40,030 8.6	39,560 9.0	39,220 7.7	39,820 7.4	39,050 6.4	39,370 5.9	39,610 6.7	40,640 7.7	39,800 6.9	39,660 6.6	39,960 6.1
Barbour	11,648 8.0	12,091 7.5	12,320 7.0	12,430 7.0	12,370 7.4	12,300 10.1	12,140 8.5	12,380 7.8	12,170 7.1	12,150 6.7	12,260 8.0	12,350 8.1	12,410 8.1	12,490 6.9	12,500 6.3
Bibb	7,278 11.1	7,212 10.0	7,210 9.5	7,280 9.9	7,170 13.9	7,220 16.3	7,000 8.6	7,020 7.9	6,950 7.7	7,050 6.8	7,300 8.0	7,200 7.7	7,280 7.8	7,230 7.1	7,180 6.3
Blount	17,620 7.3	17,172 6.8	17,190 5.5	17,250 6.6	17,410 6.9	17,160 7.5	17,010 6.2	17,220 5.8	16,990 5.1	17,170 4.6	17,390 5.7	17,400 5.4	17,340 5.2	17,530 5.2	17,430 4.4
Bullock	3,801 14.4	4,405 13.5	4,460 13.2	4,540 13.3	4,410 13.4	4,390 14.3	4,220 11.6	4,220 11.8	4,230 11.3	4,220 10.2	4,420 14.2	4,650 15.0	4,690 14.6	4,510 11.8	4,530 11.9
Butler	9,599 10.6	9,266 10.4	9,230 12.2	9,470 13.8	9,280 13.3	9,140 15.9	9,160 15.8	9,150 12.8	8,970 11.7	8,920 11.2	9,450 16.3	9,420 14.4	9,390 14.6	9,110 12.1	8,860 10.4
Calhoun	51,596 7.8	52,094 7.3	52,140 6.2	52,490 6.7	52,810 7.0	52,400 8.4	51,980 7.3	51,430 7.6	51,870 7.6	52,470 6.1	53,020 7.3	53,660 8.1	53,520 7.1	53,670 6.8	53,770 6.3
Chambers	17,510 5.9	17,075 5.4	17,070 5.1	17,120 5.2	17,110 5.7	16,840 6.7	16,600 5.7	16,730 5.8	16,520 5.2	16,640 5.9	16,820 7.2	16,770 7.2	16,940 7.2	16,860 5.6	16,970 5.3
Cherokee	7,970 8.7	8,308 7.5	8,390 6.6	8,610 6.9	8,480 7.7	8,500 10.4	8,320 8.3	8,360 7.3	8,290 8.0	8,230 7.1	8,510 10.0	8,470 9.3	8,480 8.5	8,480 8.2	8,450 7.5
Chilton	15,588 9.5	14,836 7.9	14,920 7.3	15,200 8.4	15,000 9.5	1[illegible],390 10.1	14,890 8.1	14,790 7.7	14,500 7.3	14,900 6.7	15,080 8.0	15,350 9.5	15,320 9.0	15,240 8.3	15,140 8.2
Choctaw	7,003 10.0	7,078 9.5	7,030 9.3	7,390 10.8	7,060 10.5	[illegible]130 12.7	7,000 11.0	6,960 10.1	6,910 9.7	7,010 8.9	7,140 9.8	7,250 10.2	7,170 9.6	7,030 9.9	7,110 14.4
Clarke	11,461 11.2	11,513 10.6	11,330 8.3	11,460 8.5	11,630 11.2	11,510 12.7	11,320 11.0	11,340 10.3	11,070 8.6	11,160 7.9	11,540 10.7	11,500 10.1	11,380 8.9	11,280 8.1	11,360 8.2
Clay	6,146 8.9	6,152 7.7	6,210 6.7	6,240 5.8	6,230 6.6	6,240 7.3	6,270 6.8	6,510 14.8	6,380 5.7	6,500 6.7	6,430 8.2	6,600 7.9	6,670 7.4	6,630 6.0	6,600 5.4
Cleburne	5,431 7.2	5,433 6.5	5,710 4.5	5,830 4.5	5,640 5.5	5,610 9.2	5,490 6.9	5,640 6.4	5,740 7.3	5,770 4.8	5,830 5.5	5,870 7.3	5,760 6.2	5,680 5.3	5,700 4.8
Coffee	17,960 6.3	18,068 6.5	18,260 6.3	18,320 7.1	18,080 7.3	18,010 7.3	18,000 6.2	18,300 5.9	18,100 5.4	18,070 5.2	18,410 5.9	18,890 6.7	18,900 5.9	18,710 5.2	18,800 5.8
Colbert	23,872 10.2	23,713 9.2	23,950 9.1	24,020 9.4	24,220 10.5	24,050 12.6	23,940 11.5	24,280 11.5	23,850 9.5	23,950 8.6	24,110 9.5	24,570 10.8	24,650 10.6	24,840 9.6	24,570 8.3
Conecuh	6,009 16.0	5,623 10.9	5,590 9.3	5,770 9.9	5,710 12.6	5,660 12.3	5,540 11.4	5,560 10.8	5,510 9.7	5,520 8.6	5,580 11.5	5,620 10.1	5,670 10.1	5,520 8.7	5,560 9.2
Coosa	4,988 5.5	4,952 6.2	5,030 5.5	5,010 7.2	4,960 8.1	4,890 8.2	4,850 7.4	4,940 7.7	4,970 5.8	4,960 5.6	5,050 6.7	5,080 6.3	5,150 6.3	5,140 6.3	5,120 5.5
Covington	17,413 7.5	17,374 7.8	17,480 9.4	17,890 9.1	18,060 9.4	17,800 9.5	17,560 8.4	17,650 7.9	17,420 6.5	17,580 5.9	17,760 7.0	18,190 8.0	18,180 7.1	17,750 6.0	17,940 5.8
Crenshaw	6,538 9.2	6,777 7.0	6,990 5.8	7,120 7.0	6,900 7.4	6,920 9.1	6,810 7.0	6,930 6.5	6,850 6.1	6,920 5.9	7,050 7.3	7,170 7.2	7,340 7.2	7,190 6.0	7,140 5.0
Cullman	31,713 7.7	32,049 7.3	32,610 6.8	33,060 7.3	32,770 7.7	32,580 8.7	31,990 7.6	32,420 7.1	32,270 5.9	32,610 5.5	32,980 6.1	33,470 6.4	33,590 6.4	33,010 5.7	33,520 6.0
Dale	17,831 7.5	17,971 7.8	18,230 8.3	18,290 8.4	18,420 8.6	18,130 8.9	18,010 8.1	18,310 8.2	18,180 7.0	18,500 7.4	18,610 8.1	18,620 7.4	18,860 7.9	18,740 6.8	19,010 7.1
Dallas	21,371 14.6	20,411 12.1	20,480 11.4	20,470 11.4	20,350 11.9	20,140 12.5	19,970 12.1	20,090 11.3	19,900 10.8	20,030 10.6	20,470 12.5	21,060 13.6	20,950 13.7	20,460 13.3	20,350 12.0
DeKalb	29,014 7.8	29,821 7.3	30,320 6.7	30,670 7.3	30,410 7.8	30,170 9.1	29,830 8.4	30,470 8.4	30,230 7.0	30,170 6.0	31,020 6.8	32,070 7.1	32,160 6.9	31,260 6.0	31,110 5.5
Elmore	21,000 5.9	21,508 5.8	21,710 5.5	21,830 6.1	21,760 5.9	21,430 6.1	21,590 6.3	21,860 5.9	21,540 5.3	21,800 5.6	21,710 6.3	21,860 6.0	21,750 5.9	21,790 5.5	21,820 5.0
Escambia	10,782 10.4	16,373 9.7	16,450 8.6	16,730 10.2	16,530 11.0	16,380 11.8	16,200 10.4	16,350 9.6	16,100 9.5	16,100 8.8	16,520 9.9	16,790 9.2	16,810 9.4	16,800 8.5	16,530 7.9
Etowah	43,120 9.2	42,183 8.4	42,540 8.1	42,850 9.8	42,710 10.2	42,330 11.4	42,080 10.1	42,800 10.2	42,030 7.9	42,490 7.8	43,100 9.5	43,810 9.5	44,220 10.1	44,460 13.5	43,530 8.9
Fayette	7,636 10.6	7,478 8.1	7,540 7.0	7,680 7.8	7,570 8.0	7,620 10.2	7,670 10.2	7,650 7.9	7,630 8.1	7,680 7.5	7,780 8.1	7,740 12.4	7,990 9.9	8,160 8.3	8,340 8.2
Franklin	15,130 10.1	14,549 10.8	14,660 14.2	14,760 13.5	14,690 11.8	14,670 13.2	14,510 12.3	14,770 11.4	14,510 10.6	14,800 9.4	15,230 10.3	15,760 12.7	15,310 11.4	15,230 12.2	14,900 9.8
Geneva	10,443 6.2	10,563 5.5	11,000 5.8	10,960 5.5	10,800 5.9	10,740 6.3	10,640 5.6	10,740 5.3	10,690 5.0	10,670 4.1	10,980 5.3	11,290 6.3	11,080 5.5	11,060 4.6	11,180 5.2
Greene	3,743 15.3	3,646 11.8	3,630 9.2	3,780 10.1	3,650 11.0	3,750 14.5	3,650 11.9	3,660 11.5	3,610 10.7	3,590 9.3	3,830 13.0	3,890 11.6	3,970 16.7	3,910 15.1	3,760 10.7
Hale	6,105 8.2	6,067 7.8	6,120 6.5	6,380 7.7	6,240 8.4	6,280 10.8	6,150 8.3	6,250 8.0	6,130 7.0	6,200 7.1	6,340 8.7	6,390 8.3	6,330 8.3	6,330 6.5	6,360 7.0
Henry	6,766 6.6	6,960 6.2	7,110 5.2	7,370 5.7	7,120 5.6	7,070 7.7	6,890 6.9	6,890 6.5	6,720 6.0	6,690 5.4	6,740 6.6	6,890 7.7	6,880 6.4	6,850 5.1	6,950 5.3
Houston	40,014 5.8	40,337 5.5	40,540 5.1	40,730 5.3	40,920 5.3	40,630 6.5	40,350 5.6	40,930 5.5	40,810 4.7	41,300 4.5	41,740 5.7	41,940 5.4	42,260 5.3	42,230 4.8	42,490 4.3
Jackson	20,929 9.4	20,804 12.0	20,430 12.8	20,580 13.3	20,790 14.7	21,150 17.2	20,620 15.0	20,680 13.5	20,610 12.4	20,710 10.2	21,170 12.1	21,180 11.5	21,290 10.6	21,190 9.1	21,620 9.2
Jefferson	338,868 6.6	331,653 5.8	335,940 5.6	333,140 5.6	335,760 5.7	330,350 6.2	330,160 5.6	334,580 5.5	332,120 5.2	336,640 5.1	339,940 5.9	341,690 6.0	341,740 6.1	342,660 5.4	341,700 4.9
Lamar	8,675 6.9	8,518 6.2	8,540 6.1	8,810 6.0	8,590 5.9	8,540 7.1	8,460 6.1	8,690 6.5	8,600 6.8	8,590 6.4	8,720 7.6	8,940 11.9	8,830 8.2	8,880 7.1	8,900 8.6
Lauderdale	36,490 8.2	36,645 7.5	36,830 6.9	36,820 7.0	37,330 8.6	36,530 9.4	36,630 9.0	36,980 8.5	36,610 7.3	37,090 7.1	37,310 7.9	37,650 8.4	37,590 7.8	37,790 6.6	37,840 6.3
Lawrence	11,918 12.7	12,687 10.5	12,590 9.1	12,640 9.3	13,000 12.2	13,130 14.1	12,880 12.9	12,860 12.4	12,650 9.8	12,890 9.6	13,470 13.7	13,760 13.9	13,620 12.8	13,480 10.3	13,270 9.2

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988			1989									
	1987	1988	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT CONT															
Lee	38,259	38,786	39,750	39,700	39,500	39,030	39,180	39,750	39,440	40,170	39,860	39,940	40,650	40,900	41,400
	5.4	5.1	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.4	4.4	3.7	4.0	5.3	5.0	5.1	4.4	4.1
Limestone	30,096	30,997	32,040	32,210	31,450	31,100	30,750	30,590	30,420	30,670	30,630	30,150	31,250	31,780	32,120
	6.5	6.1	5.1	6.0	6.5	7.8	6.9	6.4	5.5	5.0	7.1	8.7	6.4	5.4	4.9
Lowndes	4,688	5,347	5,860	6,050	5,960	5,960	6,230	6,390	6,450	6,530	6,770	7,050	7,020	6,650	6,440
	19.3	14.3	11.1	11.2	11.7	13.7	12.6	11.7	10.7	10.4	13.6	14.5	13.2	11.9	10.9
Macon	10,563	10,389	10,380	10,400	10,280	10,270	10,180	10,190	10,010	10,130	9,980	10,340	10,810	10,500	10,400
	6.7	7.6	7.2	7.6	7.8	9.4	8.1	7.0	6.3	6.4	7.6	7.6	8.1	6.3	5.9
Madison	130,399	132,750	135,130	134,880	136,170	133,930	133,930	135,050	134,840	137,550	139,230	139,440	140,140	140,120	140,850
	5.2	5.1	4.7	5.1	5.3	5.7	5.3	5.0	4.5	4.2	5.4	5.4	5.6	4.9	4.8
Marengo	9,838	9,588	9,610	9,760	9,740	9,420	9,370	9,460	9,380	9,490	9,770	9,860	9,720	9,530	9,600
	8.4	7.2	6.2	6.6	8.1	8.5	7.6	7.2	6.7	6.5	8.0	8.1	7.5	5.9	6.2
Marion	15,548	15,624	15,610	15,650	15,320	15,680	15,200	15,280	15,220	15,400	15,680	16,020	15,850	16,080	15,880
	10.7	8.5	7.6	8.5	9.2	12.9	9.3	8.6	9.2	9.0	11.5	13.9	12.8	14.2	14.1
Marshall	37,288	38,209	38,500	39,540	38,930	38,890	38,600	38,620	38,430	39,130	39,600	40,330	40,090	39,530	39,510
	7.9	7.8	6.4	10.0	8.4	9.4	8.4	8.0	6.4	5.8	7.2	7.8	6.9	6.4	6.1
Mobile	172,319	169,208	169,030	171,310	172,480	170,570	170,930	172,520	170,030	170,740	172,510	174,660	173,080	171,390	172,440
	9.7	9.2	8.8	9.5	10.4	10.9	10.5	9.7	9.1	8.3	9.5	9.3	9.5	8.6	8.1
Monroe	9,708	9,641	9,810	9,950	9,790	9,840	9,780	9,970	9,730	9,810	9,850	10,010	9,910	9,690	9,740
	11.7	9.8	9.6	10.4	10.6	12.1	12.0	12.2	10.8	9.9	10.7	10.3	10.9	9.2	10.6
Montgomery	100,183	99,398	100,060	100,460	100,250	99,320	99,120	100,700	99,410	100,580	100,560	102,020	101,650	101,250	101,310
	6.5	6.3	5.7	6.2	6.2	6.9	6.2	6.1	5.8	6.0	7.0	7.4	7.5	6.5	6.0
Morgan	46,674	46,803	46,690	47,060	47,720	46,970	46,400	47,120	46,520	47,290	48,670	49,530	48,820	49,160	49,590
	8.5	7.6	6.6	7.2	8.8	8.5	7.9	9.0	6.5	6.2	9.0	8.9	7.2	6.3	7.5
Perry	5,363	5,608	5,730	6,050	5,960	5,860	5,780	5,810	5,700	5,780	5,800	6,020	6,060	5,890	5,750
	11.8	10.1	7.2	10.2	17.8	16.9	11.1	9.4	7.4	7.8	9.1	9.2	9.2	8.2	10.4
Pickens	7,268	7,168	7,250	7,360	7,330	7,330	7,190	7,270	7,150	7,210	7,320	7,380	7,480	7,410	7,420
	11.2	10.2	8.2	8.0	9.6	11.9	10.8	10.0	10.0	8.9	11.7	10.2	9.9	8.3	8.5
Pike	12,545	12,639	13,080	13,160	12,580	12,990	12,900	13,140	12,970	13,170	12,980	13,060	13,150	12,980	13,670
	7.0	6.2	5.6	5.7	7.0	6.8	5.9	6.1	5.3	5.3	6.6	6.5	6.8	5.6	5.8
Randolph	9,586	9,341	9,600	9,580	9,610	9,530	9,370	9,520	9,320	9,330	9,400	9,370	9,530	9,450	9,700
	6.4	6.7	6.4	5.3	6.4	7.2	6.3	6.5	5.8	5.9	7.5	8.9	8.9	8.4	6.4
Russell	22,475	23,306	24,090	23,270	23,520	22,850	22,960	23,080	22,980	23,340	23,540	23,730	23,500	23,640	23,480
	7.1	6.3	8.1	6.4	6.3	6.2	5.8	5.1	4.6	4.6	5.5	5.9	5.2	5.3	5.1
St Clair	21,388	21,522	21,750	21,670	21,940	21,730	21,640	22,110	21,740	21,820	22,050	22,150	21,990	22,320	22,230
	6.0	6.0	5.5	6.0	6.6	7.6	6.8	7.3	6.2	5.2	6.0	6.1	5.5	5.9	5.3
Shelby	40,103	40,287	40,690	40,640	40,970	40,530	40,330	40,840	40,390	40,960	41,490	41,830	41,500	41,760	41,780
	5.0	4.6	4.0	4.8	4.9	5.9	4.9	4.6	4.1	3.9	5.0	5.5	4.8	4.4	4.2
Sumter	5,919	5,585	5,730	5,830	5,690	5,750	5,640	5,750	5,650	5,700	6,090	6,250	6,230	6,170	6,120
	12.6	10.0	7.1	7.7	9.4	10.8	7.7	8.1	7.6	7.2	11.8	10.7	10.8	8.4	7.5
Talladega	32,228	31,840	32,140	32,110	32,500	31,920	31,810	32,090	31,880	32,020	32,290	33,420	33,420	33,220	33,250
	9.6	10.0	9.6	10.3	10.6	12.3	11.3	10.5	9.7	9.1	11.1	13.2	10.8	9.6	8.8
Tallapoosa	18,992	18,483	18,700	18,670	18,570	18,440	18,290	18,520	18,510	18,720	18,940	19,130	19,300	19,160	19,090
	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.0	5.8	7.2	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.0	6.4	6.7	6.9	5.9	5.6
Tuscaloosa	69,623	70,020	71,660	71,540	71,870	70,380	70,920	72,000	71,680	72,400	71,250	72,080	72,460	73,830	74,390
	6.1	5.4	5.0	5.0	5.5	6.0	5.4	5.4	5.0	5.3	5.7	5.8	5.4	4.8	4.8
Walker	28,983	28,521	28,990	28,910	29,290	29,190	29,070	29,250	29,590	29,070	29,020	29,370	30,990	31,170	30,710
	11.0	9.1	9.2	9.7	10.3	11.9	11.1	10.3	11.8	8.8	8.5	9.3	14.1	13.7	12.2
Washington	5,719	6,583	6,740	6,900	6,950	7,000	6,950	6,990	6,750	6,800	6,870	7,040	6,940	6,950	7,100
	13.4	11.0	11.6	12.0	14.1	14.2	13.4	13.2	10.3	9.0	10.5	11.9	10.5	9.4	11.2
Wilcox	4,407	4,243	4,200	4,480	4,350	4,200	4,260	4,270	4,090	4,210	4,360	4,350	4,420	4,300	4,290
	12.6	12.1	10.5	12.0	15.3	16.7	17.7	16.0	12.6	12.3	15.8	16.4	16.1	14.2	13.2
Winston	9,883	10,401	10,610	10,710	10,510	10,600	10,460	10,370	10,350	10,490	10,550	10,850	10,890	10,980	10,750
	13.9	10.8	11.2	10.6	11.9	14.1	14.9	10.8	8.6	7.8	9.4	11.1	11.7	11.9	10.0
TRADE															
Foreign															
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[5] *(1,000 tons)*	29,363	32,684	3,970	2,668	2,646	3,123	2,788	3,067	2,736	3,752	2,633	3,585	2,969	2,765	2,576
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, non-industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	28,038	28,507	1,966	1,820	2,263	2,338	2,120	2,193	1,938	2,128	2,583	2,870	3,070	2,694	
Gasoline sales[6] *(1,000 gallons)*	2,084,218	2,072,236	155,015	190,201	186,652	161,069	158,657	162,351	199,546	186,328	182,508	179,530			
New passenger car registrations[7] *(number)*	140,070	133,614	10,571	10,060	11,594	9,256	8,572	9,762	10,212	8,082	7,282	7,599	12,782	11,344	12,278
Taxable retail sales by kind of business, state totals[8] *($1,000,000)*															
Food	4,093	4,127	344	339	372	342	331	352	351	348	363	362	350	351	338
General merchandise	2,862	3,047	253	294	413	198	197	254	257	256	250	242	258	251	253
Apparel	853	933	79	90	141	53	53	88	70	70	72	68	84	78	70
Furniture, furnishings, etc	977	1,035	86	91	127	75	70	81	79	82	65	83	85	80	79
Automotive	4,018	4,233	322	302	332	305	305	388	361	390	386	370	417	365	314
Gasoline service stations	286	294	24	23	26	25	22	26	25	26	28	27	29	26	25
Lumber and building materials	1,677	1,713	152	134	135	115	104	138	148	155	141	143	156	141	143
Hardware and farm implements	228	234	19	18	22	17	15	20	20	21	21	19	23	19	18
Eating places	1,791	1,915	164	156	174	150	146	172	170	173	180	178	177	169	168
Drug stores	391	418	32	32	48	39	34	35	36	33	31	31	32	30	32
All other retail	1,533	1,641	132	148	234	130	125	139	125	133	126	119	130	132	128
Total sales by retail concerns	18,709	19,591	1,608	1,627	2,023	1,448	1,403	1,692	1,640	1,688	1,684	1,644	1,741	1,643	1,568
Nonretail & unclassified concerns	3,160	3,414	289	282	306	279	275	297	284	310	307	292	333	311	330
Total all sales at retail	21,868	23,006	1,896	1,909	2,329	1,727	1,679	1,990	1,924	1,998	1,991	1,936	2,074	1,954	1,898

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS

Type of Activity	Annual		1988			1989									
	1987	1988	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
TRADE CONTINUED															
Taxable retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[8] *($1,000)*															
MSAs															
Anniston	602,268	625,354	51,188	52,089	60,778	45,250	43,207	52,314	50,013	52,594	52,696	53,826	54,029	50,945	49,690
Birmingham	5,797,096	5,902,728	475,780	456,214	568,517	451,269	433,585	501,248	482,866	498,827	498,670	473,377	516,218	486,246	475,723
Decatur	649,766	685,596	57,790	56,800	68,618	50,116	46,029	56,589	56,331	58,681	57,472	56,352	59,761	55,071	52,151
Dothan	696,013	711,033	57,320	58,991	70,127	58,949	59,105	71,274	66,399	68,309	70,471	66,343	75,409	67,731	64,071
Florence	718,517	766,223	64,154	65,309	82,599	62,269	58,377	74,109	71,265	75,521	73,813	72,179	78,810	73,745	69,032
Gadsden	524,919	557,127	43,817	44,754	57,471	39,188	37,191	47,856	45,429	47,738	46,840	45,720	47,411	45,138	43,854
Huntsville	1,302,226	1,353,069	110,623	110,050	131,616	117,132	110,308	132,966	126,427	132,826	131,688	130,174	138,248	128,021	129,684
Mobile	2,312,321	2,355,304	190,968	183,339	226,551	201,351	189,931	222,173	216,564	220,677	223,684	228,432	230,196	215,568	215,492
Montgomery	1,719,824	1,780,921	143,171	144,544	180,566	153,065	143,811	175,631	165,623	170,637	168,544	165,081	182,666	162,185	164,673
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,952	62,316	63,326	76,627	60,892	59,713	63,289	63,006	67,034	69,242	64,886	70,078	67,442	64,203
Counties															
Autauga	122,285	129,020	10,596	9,853	11,714	13,180	12,250	14,096	14,620	14,776	15,187	14,710	15,153	14,745	13,962
Baldwin	374,180	389,862	30,940	27,878	32,293	35,259	33,968	43,529	43,674	44,852	48,045	50,511	48,511	42,862	39,840
Barbour	84,828	86,302	7,029	6,844	8,445	6,729	6,556	7,811	7,910	7,701	7,773	7,454	7,801	7,256	6,839
Bibb	51,658	51,768	4,361	4,653	4,431	3,436	3,306	3,719	3,868	3,807	3,958	3,659	3,791	3,897	3,657
Blount	110,515	114,936	9,663	10,085	10,506	8,460	8,258	10,051	9,867	10,531	9,903	9,701	10,353	9,843	9,072
Bullock	25,271	23,571	1,855	1,941	2,502	1,783	1,684	2,088	1,800	1,765	1,789	1,734	1,789	1,804	1,825
Butler	62,697	61,508	4,940	4,667	5,722	4,751	4,319	5,149	5,033	5,083	4,775	4,819	5,225	4,920	4,344
Calhoun	602,268	625,354	51,188	52,089	60,778	45,250	43,207	52,314	50,013	52,594	52,696	53,826	54,029	50,945	49,690
Chambers	125,636	124,968	10,208	10,166	10,431	9,832	9,882	11,460	11,297	11,405	11,788	11,165	11,719	11,310	11,180
Cherokee	51,230	54,698	4,400	4,552	4,641	4,965	4,897	5,933	6,005	5,942	6,039	5,586	6,258	5,693	5,468
Chilton	122,615	133,573	10,827	11,112	11,897	8,977	8,845	10,744	11,041	11,265	10,495	10,912	11,521	10,724	9,980
Choctaw	38,404	37,125	2,973	3,034	3,580	2,741	2,772	3,199	3,034	3,063	3,217	2,905	3,132	3,089	2,784
Clarke	104,604	105,838	8,513	8,297	9,759	7,727	7,589	8,726	8,931	9,012	9,140	8,756	9,026	8,122	8,383
Clay	31,968	32,924	2,835	2,603	3,032	2,834	2,769	2,921	2,708	3,001	3,003	2,788	3,217	2,999	2,942
Cleburne	26,929	28,828	2,439	2,302	2,639	2,620	2,203	2,716	2,384	3,043	2,450	2,755	3,059	2,750	2,627
Coffee	211,223	207,080	16,653	17,346	18,070	14,151	15,802	17,182	15,887	18,758	17,605	16,537	18,003	16,086	15,115
Colbert	293,782	315,529	27,647	26,715	30,599	27,596	25,916	31,038	30,410	32,250	31,408	30,261	33,946	30,696	28,446
Conecuh	32,476	29,652	2,199	2,533	2,694	3,095	2,499	3,012	2,839	2,966	2,667	2,883	2,910	2,725	2,572
Coosa	12,707	13,545	1,049	1,488	1,167	990	1,051	1,316	1,305	1,232	1,138	1,174	1,257	1,201	971
Covington	142,938	142,710	11,316	11,468	12,720	12,498	12,671	14,585	14,861	15,478	14,684	14,288	15,268	14,394	14,006
Crenshaw	40,376	41,017	3,464	3,358	3,781	3,502	3,553	4,051	3,425	3,699	3,352	3,635	3,799	3,866	3,616
Cullman	269,229	280,223	23,349	21,720	25,867	22,818	21,578	26,416	27,012	28,728	27,154	25,688	28,036	26,727	25,977
Dale	121,169	127,814	11,047	10,250	11,740	11,267	10,656	12,756	11,848	12,841	13,335	13,403	14,699	13,689	13,064
Dallas	219,565	218,699	17,683	18,146	19,965	15,234	14,780	17,788	17,500	18,728	16,920	16,607	18,214	15,781	15,320
DeKalb	212,053	227,288	19,197	18,392	20,800	15,050	14,937	18,315	18,316	18,527	18,873	18,281	19,581	18,995	17,941
Elmore	111,814	116,953	9,123	8,826	10,391	11,444	11,100	13,448	13,319	13,432	13,158	13,469	13,133	12,975	15,241
Escambia	136,495	138,394	10,843	10,578	13,144	9,315	9,258	10,824	11,520	11,273	11,101	10,609	11,479	10,206	9,864
Etowah	524,919	557,127	43,817	[illegible]	57,471	39,188	37,191	47,856	45,429	47,738	46,840	45,720	47,411	45,138	43,854
Fayette	66,589	65,808	5,284	[illegible]	6,907	4,450	4,431	5,443	4,748	5,274	5,273	5,262	5,407	5,112	4,603
Franklin	108,599	114,120	9,515	9,461	10,962	7,874	7,328	9,332	9,336	9,210	9,441	8,665	9,065	8,525	8,369
Geneva	131,414	119,895	9,801	11,415	10,724	4,640	4,484	5,210	5,031	5,106	5,002	4,699	5,679	5,154	4,512
Greene	18,730	19,837	1,619	1,642	1,583	1,806	1,727	2,008	2,080	2,037	1,871	2,139	2,329	2,018	1,731
Hale	30,315	29,379	2,524	2,415	2,573	2,565	2,505	2,822	2,871	3,187	2,819	3,018	3,211	2,912	2,648
Henry	41,338	43,957	3,958	3,970	4,308	3,290	3,557	3,731	3,607	3,534	3,880	3,131	4,112	3,912	4,010
Houston	574,844	583,219	46,273	48,741	58,387	47,682	48,449	58,518	54,551	55,468	57,136	52,940	60,710	54,042	51,007
Jackson	166,029	175,792	15,978	14,546	16,264	12,903	12,455	16,114	15,898	18,652	16,733	15,231	16,201	17,249	14,675
Jefferson	4,822,225	4,874,364	391,658	373,328	476,864	370,758	353,256	406,411	386,716	402,616	399,702	380,686	415,841	392,288	386,235
Lamar	37,102	34,236	2,746	2,847	3,454	2,887	2,783	3,521	3,324	3,394	3,149	3,075	3,304	3,320	2,945
Lauderdale	424,735	450,694	36,507	38,594	52,000	34,673	32,461	43,071	40,855	43,271	42,405	41,918	44,864	43,049	40,586
Lawrence	65,221	68,188	5,670	5,718	6,937	5,270	4,970	6,153	6,138	6,441	6,023	5,691	6,182	5,879	5,958
Lee	403,068	422,060	35,293	38,828	41,821	33,243	30,900	37,406	37,614	35,828	36,706	35,644	38,839	38,952	37,619
Limestone	195,876	203,248	17,330	15,721	19,465	15,893	14,881	18,509	18,319	19,785	18,896	17,724	19,069	18,470	17,425
Lowndes	21,658	22,210	1,597	1,845	2,448	1,651	1,778	2,153	1,917	2,057	2,213	1,885	2,088	2,109	1,815
Macon	53,662	50,192	3,614	3,502	3,921	4,853	4,842	5,659	5,325	5,499	5,578	5,634	6,248	5,958	5,420
Madison	1,302,226	1,353,069	110,623	110,050	131,616	117,132	110,308	132,966	126,427	132,826	131,688	130,174	138,248	128,021	129,684
Marengo	81,060	82,869	7,311	7,203	7,685	6,830	6,930	8,164	7,900	8,034	7,863	7,820	8,152	8,249	7,822
Marion	110,875	115,342	9,471	9,822	10,994	9,107	8,174	10,390	10,518	10,491	10,717	10,289	12,268	11,126	11,495
Marshall	427,632	447,551	36,117	37,279	42,237	32,266	31,386	40,116	39,878	41,967	39,949	38,933	42,134	39,722	36,011
Mobile	1,938,141	1,965,442	160,028	155,461	194,258	166,092	155,963	178,644	172,890	175,825	175,639	177,921	181,685	172,706	175,652
Monroe	73,217	78,198	6,267	6,805	7,603	7,439	7,316	9,298	8,348	8,996	8,495	9,053	9,683	8,972	9,045
Montgomery	1,485,725	1,534,948	123,452	125,865	158,461	128,441	120,461	148,087	137,684	142,429	140,199	136,902	154,380	134,465	135,470
Morgan	584,545	617,408	52,120	51,082	61,681	44,846	41,059	50,436	50,193	52,240	61,449	50,661	53,579	49,192	46,193
Perry	23,734	22,657	1,689	1,738	2,173	1,977	1,945	2,545	2,079	2,114	2,045	2,081	2,282	2,371	1,952
Pickens	42,458	42,090	3,401	3,453	3,925	3,771	3,692	4,463	4,530	4,658	4,542	4,056	4,502	4,327	3,763
Pike	115,053	118,110	9,646	9,346	10,804	11,384	10,419	12,424	11,633	11,511	12,130	11,064	12,466	11,841	11,668
Randolph	59,796	61,319	5,158	4,694	6,585	5,554	5,212	6,503	6,223	6,471	6,406	5,877	6,290	5,900	5,839
Russell	131,628	131,576	10,453	10,544	12,683	11,152	11,380	13,576	13,953	14,594	13,991	13,336	13,649	12,002	12,655
St. Clair	151,136	151,410	11,919	11,647	13,950	10,816	11,448	13,525	13,753	13,517	14,233	12,637	13,871	13,265	12,200
Shelby	349,404	373,404	31,071	29,946	31,489	33,201	32,979	39,152	39,641	39,765	39,972	38,579	41,855	37,871	36,940
Sumter	32,578	33,488	3,003	2,991	3,100	2,939	2,766	3,437	3,087	3,201	3,231	2,991	3,327	3,195	3,254
Talladega	299,552	323,147	25,786	24,830	30,182	26,750	26,369	32,811	29,688	34,801	31,184	32,917	31,851	29,658	28,328
Tallapoosa	152,999	156,902	12,389	12,760	14,062	9,871	9,399	11,688	11,616	12,434	12,370	12,256	12,996	14,017	10,939
Tuscaloosa	739,660	766,952	62,316	63,326	76,627	60,892	59,713	63,289	63,006	67,034	69,242	64,886	70,078	67,442	64,203
Walker	363,816	388,614	31,469	31,208	35,708	28,034	27,644	32,109	32,889	32,398	34,860	31,774	34,298	32,979	31,276
Washington	22,573	22,116	1,791	1,650	1,834	1,902	1,860	2,122	2,446	2,157	2,123	2,289	2,180	2,224	2,174
Wilcox	23,251	20,487	1,696	1,722	2,134	2,147	1,986	2,379	2,177	2,150	2,124	2,095	2,062	2,213	1,824
Winston	92,401	97,344	8,268	7,858	8,956	6,736	6,121	6,978	7,790	8,411	8,106	8,175	8,582	8,626	7,990
Statewide[8]	1,839,693	2,407,596	221,503	253,966	330,559	98,346	119,677	135,635	131,702	134,808	143,023	137,560	148,384	151,539	143,351

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding.

[1] Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data.

[2] Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data.

[3] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of Dodge\DRI Construction and Real Estate Information Service.

[4] Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year.

[5] Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.

[6] Gross gallons of gasoline as reported by wholesale distributors.

[7] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

[8] Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. ***Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters.*** Retail sales historical data prior to 1984 are not available for the new series. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual countries; it does not represent a state total. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms.

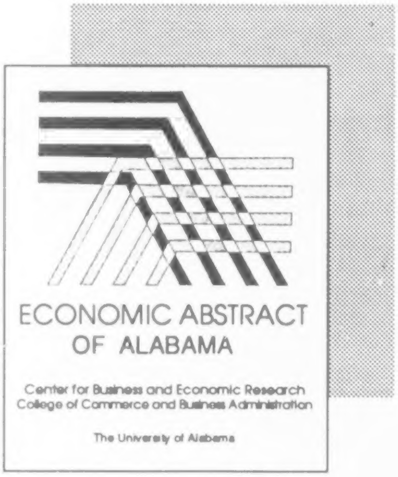
Alabama by the Numbers...

The ***Economic Abstract of Alabama***, 1989 edition, is the most comprehensive source of demographic and economic information available about Alabama and its counties. Business, government, the news media - those who need to know about the state and its people - have come to rely on ***The Economic Abstract of Alabama*** to fulfill their needs for quantitative information.

The 1989 edition is presented in a 7" x 9" perfect bound format, and the book is fully indexed.

The ***Economic Abstract of Alabama*** is only available from the Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama. (ISBN 0-943394-03-1)

Spanning almost 600 pages of tabular material, the 1989 edition has been updated and expanded to include the latest information. Many of the data items are presented at national, state, and county levels and cover several years to facilitate comparisons and trend analysis. The ***Abstract*** contains data series ranging from the early 1900s to the present, as well as forecasts of the state's economy and population projections.



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ALABAMA Business & ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Volume 59 Number 3 Center for Business and Economic Research March 1990

DEBATING JOB GROWTH IN ALABAMA

One can always tell when election time rolls around by sudden interest in the state's job growth. Incumbents claim all job growth which occurred during their tenure is the direct result of their leadership. Challengers look for reasons to disassociate that growth from the actions of the incumbents. Yet with our attention focused on the creation of jobs, we may lose sight of the fact that job growth is not the only way (and perhaps not even the best way) to monitor economic growth.

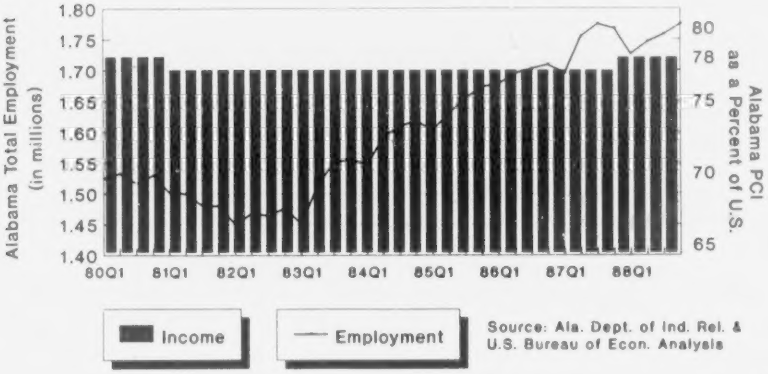
The ultimate goal of economic growth should be to raise the standard of living of the residents of the state. If we measure the standard of living by focusing on the average income of Alabamians over the past eight years, we can cite a modest increase in the real standard of living ($9,315 real per capita income in 1981 vs. $10,859 in 1988 for Alabama, an increase of only 16 percent during eight years). But when we focus on the relative income of the average Alabamian compared to the rest of the United States, there has been little progress in the past eight years. Alabama's per capita income was 78 percent of the U.S. average in 1989 and has shown little or no improvement in spite of the job growth which has occurred since 1982.

Creating jobs is relatively easy. Creating the right kinds of jobs, ones that will allow Alabama to close the income gap, is not easy nor is it quick. To create the right kinds of jobs we must recognize that an individual's pay is a reflection of his or her economic value to an employer. This economic value in turn depends upon the kinds of goods (and services!) that are produced (i.e., low or high valued items in the marketplace) and how efficiently they are produced. Low valued items, no matter how efficiently they are produced, offer little room for high wages. High valued items inefficiently produced are at a competitive disadvantage in our global economy and thus also offer little hope for high wages.

How can Alabama attract the "right" kinds of jobs, ones which offer wages higher than the state average today? We can do it by recognizing that employers producing high valued items follow the availability of a highly skilled and productive work force. We can do it by adopting a strategy that focuses on job skills, not just on the creation of jobs. Such a strategy is not likely to show immediate results in terms of either job creation or reductions in the income gap. But it is clear that the alternate strategy, of focusing on job growth, has not moved us up the income ladder.

William D. Gunther

Total Employment and Relative Per Capita Income



Source: Ala. Dept. of Ind. Rel. & U.S. Bureau of Econ. Analysis

The New Look! Alabama Business

Alabama Business has a new look. Beginning with this issue, the magazine will assume a new format. *Alabama Business* has been published since 1930, and has seen numerous changes in look and style. But the purpose has always been the same--to bring to you timely information.

The University of Alabama

	TAXABLE RETAIL SALES (in thousands of current dollars)				LABOR FORCE		
	Nov 1989^{p}	Oct 1989^{r}	Oct 1988	Percent Change Oct 88-Oct 89	Civilian Labor Force Nov 1989	Unemployment Rate Nov 89	Unemployment Rate Oct 89
Alabama, State of	1,756,006	1,913,726	1,896,468	0.9	1,954,600	6.4	6.5
MSAs							
Anniston	44,436	50,284	51,188	-1.8	54,050	6.1	6.3
Birmingham	443,808	477,484	475,780	0.4	452,550	5.2	5.3
Decatur	49,034	53,149	57,790	-8.0	63,050	7.2	7.9
Dothan	61,481	64,712	57,320	12.9	61,550	5.1	5.2
Florence	63,357	70,906	64,154	10.5	62,670	7.1	7.1
Gadsden	40,987	44,258	43,817	1.0	43,980	9.0	8.9
Huntsville	112,109	131,151	110,623	18.6	141,200	4.8	4.8
Mobile	175,613	210,690	190,968	10.3	213,070	7.4	7.7
Montgomery	147,342	167,037	143,171	16.7	139,770	5.8	6.1
Tuscaloosa	64,105	65,551	62,316	5.2	74,040	4.2	4.8
Counties							
Autauga	12,814	14,155	10,596	33.6	16,390	7.2	7.8
Baldwin	31,766	40,505	30,940	30.9	40,450	6.7	6.1
Barbour	6,875	6,918	7,029	-1.6	12,490	6.2	6.3
Bibb	3,503	3,665	4,361	-16.0	7,170	9.1	6.3
Blount	8,607	9,398	9,663	-2.7	17,520	5.1	4.4
Bullock	1,701	1,828	1,855	-1.5	4,540	12.0	11.9
Butler	4,337	4,408	4,940	-10.8	9,040	13.8	10.4
Calhoun	44,436	50,284	51,188	-1.8	54,050	6.1	6.3
Chambers	10,310	11,281	10,208	10.5	17,020	4.8	5.3
Cherokee	4,672	5,577	4,400	26.8	8,650	7.7	7.5
Chilton	9,459	10,036	10,827	-7.3	15,120	9.8	8.2
Choctaw	3,005	2,857	2,973	-3.9	7,090	11.6	14.4
Clarke	7,112	8,517	8,513	0.0	11,220	7.2	8.2
Clay	2,786	2,960	2,835	4.4	6,720	5.7	5.4
Cleburne	2,335	2,658	2,439	9.0	5,610	5.1	4.8
Coffee	14,186	15,389	16,653	-7.6	18,540	5.4	5.8
Colbert	24,185	29,220	27,647	5.7	24,680	8.3	8.3
Conecuh	2,474	2,616	2,199	19.0	5,570	9.4	9.2
Coosa	936	996	1,049	-5.1	5,070	5.4	5.5
Covington	13,083	14,168	11,316	25.2	18,070	6.4	5.8
Crenshaw	3,309	3,644	3,464	5.2	7,180	6.6	5.0
Cullman	24,338	27,093	23,349	16.0	33,570	5.8	6.0
Dale	12,245	13,188	11,047	19.4	18,960	6.7	7.1
Dallas	14,508	15,903	17,683	-10.1	20,360	11.8	12.0
De Kalb	17,421	18,272	19,197	-4.8	31,250	5.4	5.5
Elmore	12,081	15,300	9,123	67.7	21,930	5.1	5.0
Escambia	9,556	9,974	10,843	-8.0	16,550	8.5	7.9
Etowah	40,987	44,258	43,817	1.0	43,980	9.0	8.9
Fayette	4,816	4,828	5,284	-8.6	8,330	7.7	8.2
Franklin	7,800	8,837	9,515	-7.1	14,870	10.0	9.8
Geneva	4,335	4,657	9,801	-52.5	11,120	5.6	5.2
Greene	1,787	1,792	1,619	10.7	3,780	9.5	10.7
Hale	2,663	2,693	2,524	6.7	6,340	6.7	7.0
Henry	3,474	4,045	3,958	2.2	6,940	5.6	5.3
Houston	49,236	51,524	46,273	11.3	42,590	4.4	4.3
Jackson	14,721	14,868	15,978	-6.9	21,680	8.9	9.2
Jefferson	358,208	386,635	391,658	-1.3	340,970	4.8	4.9
Lamar	2,896	3,006	2,746	9.5	8,960	7.9	8.6
Lauderdale	39,172	41,686	36,507	14.2	37,990	6.3	6.3
Lawrence	5,483	6,039	5,670	6.5	13,410	9.3	9.2
Lee	35,453	38,378	35,293	8.7	41,420	3.9	4.1
Limestone	16,450	17,668	17,330	2.0	32,350	5.1	4.9
Lowndes	1,947	1,828	1,597	14.5	6,170	11.2	10.9
Macon	4,825	5,526	3,614	52.9	10,310	6.3	5.9
Madison	112,109	131,151	110,623	18.6	141,200	4.8	4.8
Marengo	7,421	7,914	7,311	8.2	9,500	6.9	6.2
Marion	9,305	10,364	9,471	9.4	15,940	13.0	14.1
Marshall	36,607	36,751	36,117	1.8	39,550	6.2	6.1
Mobile	143,847	170,185	160,028	6.3	172,610	7.6	8.1
Monroe	9,479	9,084	6,267	44.9	9,710	11.2	10.6
Montgomery	122,447	137,582	123,452	11.4	101,450	5.7	6.0
Morgan	43,551	47,110	52,120	-9.6	49,640	6.6	7.5
Perry	2,023	1,980	1,689	17.2	5,930	13.2	10.4
Pickens	4,765	3,874	3,401	13.9	7,500	10.0	8.5
Pike	10,465	11,767	9,646	22.0	13,610	5.3	5.8
Randolph	5,069	5,911	5,158	14.6	9,680	7.2	6.4
Russell	12,502	12,724	10,453	21.7	23,550	4.8	5.1
St. Clair	11,308	12,394	11,919	4.0	22,250	5.5	5.3
Shelby	34,617	37,360	31,071	20.2	41,720	4.2	4.2
Sumter	2,848	3,324	3,003	10.7	6,180	8.5	7.5
Talladega	26,857	28,735	25,786	11.4	33,240	9.0	8.8
Tallapoosa	10,806	11,110	12,389	-10.3	19,130	5.5	5.6
Tuscaloosa	64,105	65,551	62,316	5.2	74,040	4.2	4.8
Walker	31,068	31,697	31,469	0.7	30,080	10.5	12.2
Washington	1,938	2,209	1,791	23.3	6,960	9.2	11.2
Wilcox	1,917	1,870	1,696	10.3	4,210	12.0	13.2
Winston	11,758	8,168	8,268	-1.2	10,860	10.9	10.0

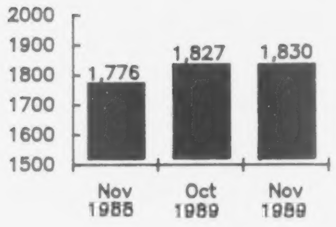
SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	Nov	Oct	Nov	Percent Change	Annual	
	1989	1989	1988	Nov 88-Nov 89	1987	1988
Prices						
Consumer Price Index, U.S. All Items (1982-84=100)	125.9	125.6	120.3	4.7	113.6	118.3
Producer Price Index, U.S. All commodities (1982=100)	112.7	112.7	108.3	4.1	102.8	106.9
Consumer Purchasing Power of the Dollar	0.79	0.80	0.83	-4.4	0.88	0.85
Alabama Employment						
Total Employment (1,000)	1,830.0	1,827.2	1,776.3	3.0	1,748.0	1,751.0
Nonagricultural	1,592.3	1,587.9	1,585.9	0.4	1,507.7	1,551.3
Manufacturing	386.5	386.6	382.0	1.2	368.8	378.9
Durable goods	188.8	188.9	187.2	0.9	178.0	184.4
Nondurable goods	197.7	197.7	194.8	1.5	190.8	194.5
Nonmanufacturing	1,205.8	1,201.3	1,203.9	0.2	1,138.9	1,172.4
Mining and quarrying	11.6	11.5	11.4	1.8	11.3	11.2
Contract construction	74.8	75.6	77.0	-2.9	75.1	77.4
Trans, comm., and utilities	79.2	79.1	79.2	0.0	73.3	79.0
Wholesale trade	81.9	81.8	80.1	2.2	78.4	79.5
Retail trade	269.6	265.7	267.7	0.7	253.3	259.9
Finance, insurance, real estate	71.7	71.7	70.6	1.6	70.5	70.2
Services and miscellaneous	298.6	298.3	289.8	3.0	276.5	286.1
Federal government	65.4	65.4	64.9	0.8	65.9	65.6
State and local government	253.0	252.2	263.2	-3.9	234.7	243.3
Other Alabama Indicators						
Bituminous coal production (1,000 net tons)	2,097	2,215	2,311	-9.3	24,870	26,055
Natural gas production (mil cu ft)	12,882	13,492	14,782	-12.9	155,990	176,008
Crude oil and condensate production (1,000 barrels)	1,476	1,498	1,691	-12.7	20,621	20,597
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs.)	47,388	51,128	39,776	19.1	483,311	482,002
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile (1,000 tons)	3,553	2,576	2,668	33.1	29,363	32,684
Initial claims for unemployment benefits	n.a.	22,916	25,161	n.a.	349,204	348,271

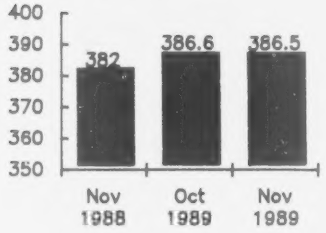
	Nov	Oct	Oct	Percent Change	Annual	
	1989	1989	1988	Oct 88-Oct 89	1987	1988
Alabama Taxable Retail Sales ($1,000,000)						
Food	295	341	344	-0.9	4,093	4,128
General merchandise	234	254	253	0.5	2,862	3,047
Apparel	81	72	79	-8.7	853	933
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	88	80	86	-6.8	977	1,035
Automotive	292	319	322	-0.7	4,018	4,233
Gasoline service stations	23	25	24	3.0	286	294
Lumber and building materials	126	144	152	-4.9	1,677	1,713
Hardware and farm implements	20	19	19	-2.9	228	234
Eating and drinking places	151	171	164	4.1	1,791	1,915
Drug stores	31	32	32	-2.0	391	418
Miscellaneous retail	140	132	132	0.0	1,533	1,641
Nonretail & unclassified	275	324	289	12.1	3,160	3,414
Total, all sales at retail	1,756	1,914	1,896	0.9	21,868	23,006

Notes and Sources: Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year. Shipments by water include both inbound and outbound shipments moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters. Retail sales historical data prior to 1984 are not available for the current series. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms.

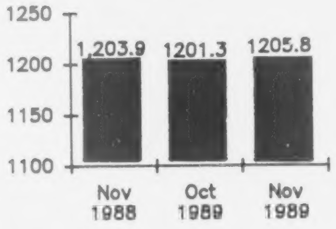
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)



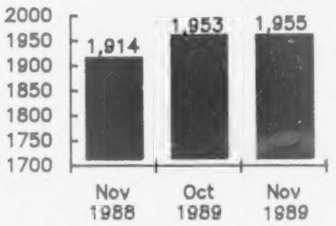
MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)



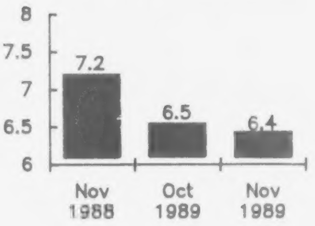
NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)



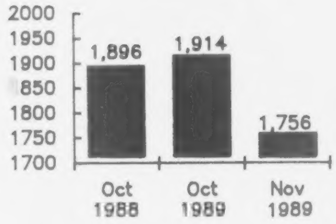
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (Thousands)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (Percent)



TOTAL RETAIL TRADE (Millions $)



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All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, ***Alabama Business,*** Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone (205) 348-6191.

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ALABAMA
Business
& ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Volume 59 Number 4 Center for Business and Economic Research April 1990

Good Jobs versus Bad Jobs

In the debate over job growth in Alabama, there is a tendency to measure all jobs as if they were identical. Critics counter by arguing there are "good jobs" (i.e. manufacturing) and "bad jobs" (i.e., services and retail trade) and thus all jobs should not be treated equally. However, categorizing jobs as good or bad by the sector in which they reside can be as misleading as counting all jobs as economically equivalent.

Between 1986 and 1987, the two latest years for which detailed data are available, 35,291 jobs were added to private sector payrolls in the state, an increase of three percent over the previous year. The 1987 average payroll of all these workers equaled $17,306, a four percent increase over 1986. After adjusting for inflation in 1987, however, the real increase in payrolls amounted to only 0.3 percent.

Of the 35,291 net additional jobs added to the economy in 1987, only 10.5 percent were in the manufacturing sector, the sector often considered the "good job" sector. While the 1987 *average* manufacturing sector payroll of $20,446 was $3,140 (18.1 percent) above the average for all private sector jobs in Alabama, the relatively few manufacturing jobs contributed little to raising the average payroll in the State.

The sector accounting for the largest share of job growth over this period was the service sector, accounting for 42.9 percent of the total number of net jobs added in the State. The average payroll in the service sector was $15,396, which was $1,910 (or 11 percent) below the State's average wage rate. The sector creating the second largest share of the State's job growth was the retail trade sector, accounting for 40.4 percent of all jobs added. The average wage in this sector was $10,036, which was $7,270 (42 percent) below the State average.

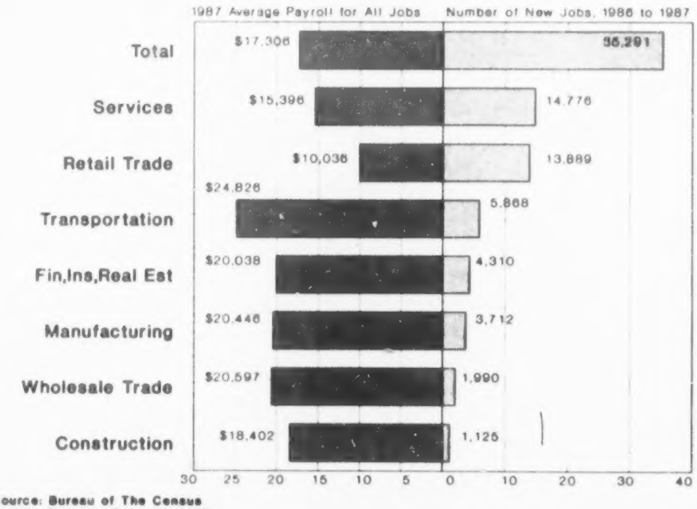
On the surface it would appear that the good job/bad job classification has some merit. Manufacturing jobs clearly have a higher average payroll than service sector or retail trade sector jobs. However, additional investigation reveals some interesting facts about the manufacturing versus service sector debate.

While the manufacturing sector had a 1987 *average* payroll of $20,446, there were 68,810 jobs in the manufacturing sector whose average payroll was below the average of the service sector ($15,396), and an additional 86,181 jobs with an average payroll less than the Alabama average for all private sector jobs ($17,306). That means that 154,991 manufacturing jobs, or 45 percent of the total, paid less than the average payroll in the State.

Nine and a half percent (25,035) of all the jobs in the service sector had an average payroll greater than that of the manufacturing sector's $20,446, even though the service sector average is only $15,396. There were 110,944 service sector jobs (or 41.7 percent of all service sector jobs) that had payrolls above the state average of $17,306.

If the state's average payroll is to rise, allowing for a higher standard of living, new jobs must be added which have an average payroll above the existing state average. The suggestion that only manufacturing jobs can achieve this goal is misleading.

Alabama Payroll and New Jobs



Source: Bureau of The Census
County Business Patterns, 1987

William D. Gunther

The University of Alabama

	TAXABLE RETAIL SALES (in thousands of current dollars)				LABOR FORCE		
	Nov 1989	Oct 1989	Oct 1988	Percent Change Oct 88-Oct 89	Civilian Labor Force Nov 1989	Unemployment Rate Nov 89	Oct 89
Alabama, State of	2,189,050	1,926,475	1,908,612	0.9	1,902,700	6.5	6.4
MSAs							
Anniston	56,946	51,341	52,089	-1.4	53,770	6.2	6.1
Birmingham	525,527	471,987	456,214	3.5	450,050	5.3	5.2
Decatur	57,591	53,742	56,800	-5.4	62,540	7.4	7.2
Dothan	74,042	66,476	58,991	12.7	61,210	5.7	5.1
Florence	77,187	75,322	65,309	15.3	62,220	7.5	7.1
Gadsden	47,258	43,443	44,706	-2.8	43,600	9.2	9.0
Huntsville	146,083	127,333	110,050	15.7	139,840	4.6	4.8
Mobile	244,116	210,592	183,339	14.9	210,930	7.2	7.4
Montgomery	206,744	165,190	144,544	14.3	137,720	5.6	5.8
Tuscaloosa	76,487	66,656	63,326	5.3	74,090	4.8	4.2
Counties							
Autauga	14,804	13,540	9,853	37.4	16,350	6.8	7.1
Baldwin	40,609	37,619	27,878	34.9	40,360	6.6	6.6
Barbour	9,197	7,309	6,844	6.8	12,310	6.4	6.1
Bibb	3,878	3,544	4,653	-23.8	7,040	11.4	9.0
Blount	9,348	8,995	10,085	-10.8	16,970	5.8	5.2
Bullock	2,238	1,738	1,941	-10.5	4,180	12.7	12.4
Butler	5,226	4,531	4,667	-2.9	8,420	12.1	14.3
Calhoun	56,946	51,341	52,089	-1.4	50,950	6.4	6.3
Chambers	11,816	10,644	10,166	4.7	16,590	5.1	4.9
Cherokee	6,512	5,457	4,552	19.9	8,400	8.1	7.6
Chilton	10,318	9,652	11,112	-13.1	15,160	9.3	9.6
Choctaw	3,196	3,131	3,034	3.2	6,780	14.3	11.6
Clarke	9,082	8,458	8,297	1.9	11,180	7.3	7.1
Clay	3,141	2,836	2,603	9.0	6,490	5.7	5.8
Cleburne	2,428	2,427	2,302	5.4	5,410	5.4	5.1
Coffee	15,839	14,751	17,346	-15.0	18,040	5.2	5.4
Colbert	30,295	29,467	26,715	10.3	24,240	8.8	8.3
Conecuh	2,860	2,596	2,533	2.5	5,590	9.1	9.3
Coosa	1,065	994	1,488	-33.2	5,110	6.1	5.4
Covington	16,114	15,241	11,468	32.9	16,890	6.5	6.6
Crenshaw	3,984	3,381	3,358	0.7	6,640	6.3	6.9
Cullman	27,474	26,315	21,720	21.2	33,020	6.7	5.9
Dale	13,469	12,904	10,250	25.9	15,370	7.4	6.8
Dallas	18,086	15,592	18,146	-14.1	19,970	12.3	11.8
De Kalb	20,321	18,425	18,392	0.2	30,620	6.4	5.4
Elmore	13,246	12,248	8,826	38.8	22,110	5.0	5.0
Escambia	11,359	9,813	10,578	-7.2	15,580	8.8	8.8
Etowah	47,258	43,443	44,706	-2.8	42,670	9.2	9.1
Fayette	5,736	4,931	5,191	-5.0	7,850	7.8	7.9
Franklin	9,970	8,842	9,461	-6.5	14,140	10.3	10.1
Geneva	5,202	4,557	11,415	-60.1	11,040	5.5	5.5
Greene	2,096	1,827	1,642	11.3	3,550	9.8	9.8
Hale	3,084	2,729	2,415	13.0	6,230	7.1	6.7
Henry	4,228	3,580	3,970	-9.8	7,130	4.7	5.5
Houston	60,573	53,572	48,741	9.9	40,860	4.9	4.5
Jackson	16,653	15,631	14,546	7.5	20,550	8.8	9.1
Jefferson	433,851	383,964	373,328	2.8	331,870	4.9	4.9
Lamar	3,538	3,024	2,847	6.2	8,400	7.7	8.1
Lauderdale	46,892	45,855	38,594	18.8	37,520	6.5	6.3
Lawrence	6,682	6,166	5,718	7.8	12,800	10.1	9.6
Lee	43,327	38,283	38,828	-1.4	41,830	4.2	3.8
Limestone	19,065	17,275	15,721	9.9	31,400	6.2	5.2
Lowndes	2,506	1,979	1,845	7.3	6,300	10.9	10.7
Macon	4,937	5,030	3,502	43.6	9,970	6.0	6.4
Madison	146,083	127,333	110,050	15.7	133,630	4.6	5.0
Marengo	8,318	7,611	7,203	5.7	9,760	7.0	6.8
Marion	11,010	10,008	9,822	1.9	14,940	13.5	13.3
Marshall	40,230	38,932	37,279	4.4	37,920	7.6	6.3
Mobile	203,507	172,973	155,461	11.3	169,080	7.2	7.6
Monroe	9,808	9,567	6,805	40.6	10,190	10.3	10.5
Montgomery	178,694	139,402	125,865	10.8	100,200	5.4	5.7
Morgan	50,909	47,576	51,082	-6.9	48,090	6.8	6.7
Perry	2,569	2,136	1,738	22.9	5,510	16.7	13.7
Pickens	4,906	4,920	3,453	42.5	7,230	9.9	10.1
Pike	11,464	10,770	9,346	15.2	12,390	5.3	5.4
Randolph	6,146	5,729	4,694	22.0	8,990	7.1	7.6
Russell	13,308	12,690	10,544	20.4	22,440	5.5	5.0
St. Clair	11,777	11,649	11,647	0.0	22,010	5.5	5.5
Shelby	36,557	35,462	29,946	18.4	43,290	3.9	4.0
Sumter	3,292	3,109	2,991	3.9	6,000	8.9	8.6
Talladega	31,630	27,535	24,830	10.9	32,340	9.1	9.1
Tallapoosa	12,761	11,076	12,760	-13.2	18,510	5.1	5.5
Tuscaloosa	76,487	66,656	63,326	5.3	72,980	4.8	4.3
Walker	33,994	31,917	31,208	2.3	29,520	11.2	10.6
Washington	1,981	2,011	1,650	21.9	6,320	10.9	9.5
Wilcox	2,506	2,008	1,722	16.6	4,030	12.4	12.4
Winston	8,198	8,189	7,858	4.2	10,520	10.4	10.9

SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

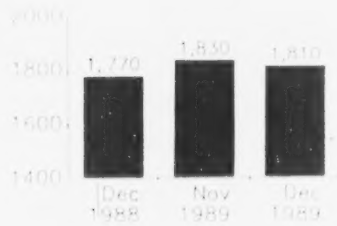
	Nov 1989	Oct 1989	Nov 1988	Percent Change Nov 88-Nov 89	Annual 1987	Annual 1988
Prices						
Consumer Price Index, U.S. All Items (1982-84 = 100)	126.1	125.9	120.5	4.6	113.6	118.3
Producer Price Index, U.S. All commodities (1982 = 100)	113.0	112.7	109.0	3.7	102.8	106.9
Consumer Purchasing Power of the Dollar	0.79	0.79	0.83	-4.4	0.88	0.85
Alabama Employment						
Total Employment (1,000)	1,809.5	1,830.0	1,769.9	2.2	1,748.0	1,751.0
Nonagricultural	1,588.9	1,592.3	1,573.8	1.0	1,507.7	1,551.3
Manufacturing	382.5	386.5	380.6	0.5	368.8	378.9
Durable goods	187.6	188.8	187.0	0.3	178.0	184.4
Nondurable goods	194.9	197.7	193.6	0.7	190.8	194.5
Nonmanufacturing	1,206.4	1,205.8	1,193.2	1.1	1,138.9	1,172.4
Mining and quarrying	11.6	11.6	11.3	2.7	11.3	11.2
Contract construction	73.8	74.8	76.5	-3.5	75.1	77.4
Trans, comm., and utilities	79.1	79.2	79.1	0.0	73.3	79.0
Wholesale trade	81.9	81.9	80.3	2.0	78.4	79.5
Retail trade	272.5	269.6	274.9	-0.9	253.3	259.9
Finance, insurance, real estate	71.6	71.7	70.8	1.1	70.5	70.2
Services and miscellaneous	298.3	298.6	290.9	2.5	276.5	286.1
Federal government	65.4	65.4	64.2	1.9	65.9	65.6
State and local government	252.2	253.0	245.2	2.9	234.7	243.3
Other Alabama Indicators						
Bituminous coal production (1,000 net tons)	1,813	2,097	2,393	-24.2	24,870	26,055
Natural gas production (mil cu ft)	14,419	12,882	16,141	-10.7	155,990	176,008
Crude oil and condensate production (1,000 barrels)	1,559	1,476	1,745	-10.7	20,621	20,597
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs)	42,336	46,948	37,268	13.6	483,311	482,002
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	548	540	595	-7.9	6,904	6,977
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile (1,000 tons)	3,028	3,553	2,646	14.5	29,363	32,684
New passenger car registrations*	10,137	8,811	11,594	-12.6	140,070	133,614

	Nov 1989	Oct 1989	Oct 1988	Percent Change Oct 88-Oct 89	Annual 1987	Annual 1988
Alabama Taxable Retail Sales ($1,000,000)						
Food	361	343	339	1.3	4,093	4,128
General merchandise	394	283	294	-3.6	2,862	3,047
Apparel	129	88	90	-3.1	853	933
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	119	91	91	0.7	977	1,035
Automotive	299	304	302	0.5	4,018	4,233
Gasoline service stations	25	24	23	0.3	286	294
Lumber and building materials	115	132	134	-1.0	1,677	1,713
Hardware and farm implements	19	21	18	16.7	228	234
Eating and drinking places	167	159	156	2.4	1,791	1,915
Drug stores	45	32	32	-2.5	391	418
Miscellaneous retail	228	149	148	0.6	1,533	1,641
Nonretail & unclassified	288	301	282	6.8	3,160	3,414
Total, all sales at retail	2,189	1,926	1,909	0.9	21,868	23,006

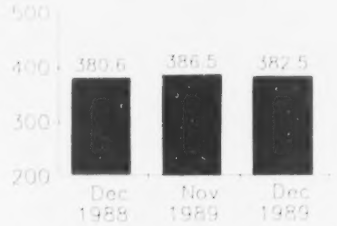
Notes and Sources: Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year. Shipments by water include both inbound and outbound shipments moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because of late reporters. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms. *Data on new passenger car registrations may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

Center for Business and Economic Research

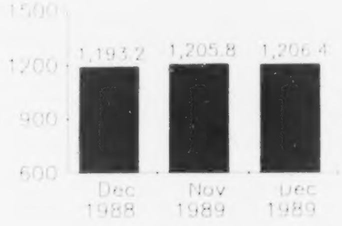
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



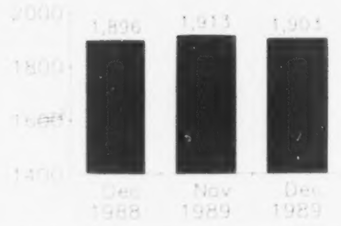
MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



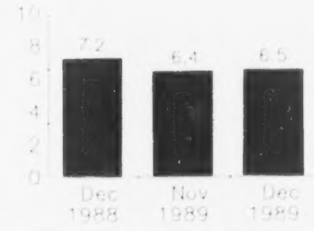
NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



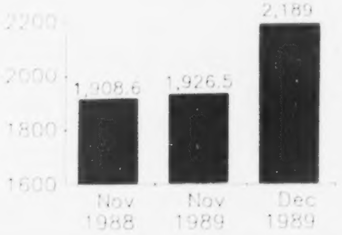
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
(Thousands)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(Percent)



TOTAL RETAIL SALES
($ Millions)



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All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, ***Alabama Business***, Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone (205)348-6191.

Center for Business and Economic Research
The University of Alabama
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Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0221

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ALABAMA Business & ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Volume 59 Number 5 Center for Business and Economic Research May 1990

Industrial Growth and Environmental

The U.S. Congress will probably pass the most stringent amendments to the 1970 Clean Air Act since its inception. The possible effects of this legislation on specific areas of the country, particularly the Midwest and West Virginia, have been the subject of much debate during the legislative process.

These concerns are reminiscent of the 1970s when the United States passed a number of environmental laws. At that time some feared that these laws would result in a massive exodus of firms to third world countries. Others feared that firms not migrating off shore would seek out the more environmentally permissive locations in the United States. These regulations, some feared, would result in a migration out of the industrial Midwest and Northeast into the South.

To argue that environmental regulation has no impact on location would be foolish. Yet have the fears that such laws cause massive relocations and geographic restructuring been substantiated by the facts?

A private consulting company predicted in 1975 that the unemployment rate would increase by only one fourth of one percent as a result of environmental regulations passed in the early 1970s. A Ph.D. student at the University of Wisconsin estimated the net impact of the 1970 Clean Air Act to be a decrease in employment of only 0.21 percent. In an actual count of plant closings, the Environmental Protection Agency reported only 98 plants closed and a total of 19,580 jobs were lost in the United States as a result of environmental regulation over the 1971-1976 period. Many studies simply confirm the overall conclusion that the net impact of environmental regulation on the aggregate level of economic activity in the 1970s was very small. But these studies did not address the impact of environmental regulations on individual plant location decisions.

One of the early concerns regarding environmental regulation was that firms would relocate to other countries, especially third world countries, to reduce operating costs. However, several studies have found that the political risk of relocating to third world countries more than offsets any environmental cost savings to be found. In surveys of plants that have actually relocated, studies found that these plants almost never cite environmental regulations as a factor in that relocation decision.

Even in industries that were hardest hit by environmental regulations the evidence does not support the conclusion that relocations occurred because of those laws. The general economic condition of the industries (a declining market) has more to do with explaining such moves than environmental regulations. Generally, firms find it more efficient to adjust their production process than to relocate a plant.

The evidence does not support the idea that environmental regulations have resulted in significant industrial flight overseas or have significantly altered the domestic industrial landscape. This does not mean that environmental regulations do not impact the economies of locations which adopt them, but only suggests that the overall magnitude of such impacts has been rather limited. An important lesson from this evidence is that states or communities which attempt to sell their environmental endowments are not likely to find it makes much difference in their industrial growth.

William D. Gunther

Take Note!

Screened headings on the data tables in the April 1990 issue were incorrect. The labels "Oct" and "Nov" should have read "Nov" and "Dec," respectively.

Extremely low January 1990 preliminary retail sales figures shown in this issue reflect the Department of Revenue's implementation of new data entry and computer system. Hopefully, initial problems with the system can be resolved and the revised numbers reported next month.

The University of Alabama

	TAXABLE RETAIL SALES (In thousands of current dollars)				LABOR FORCE		
	Jan 1990[p]	Dec 1989[r]	Dec 1988	Percent Change Dec 88-Dec 89	Civilian Labor Force Jan 1990	Unemployment Rate Jan 90	Unemployment Rate Dec 89
Alabama, State of	1,407,210	2,222,459	2,328,702	-4.6	1,875,100	6.7	6.5
MSAs							
Anniston	36,451	57,248	60,814	-5.9	51,100	6.6	6.4
Birmingham	356,351	534,745	568,589	-6.0	433,430	5.2	5.3
Decatur	42,885	62,216	68,619	-9.3	60,870	7.7	7.5
Dothan	51,965	75,531	70,137	7.7	58,320	5.6	5.7
Florence	49,417	85,566	82,600	3.6	60,380	7.0	7.4
Gadsden	32,881	47,797	57,427	-16.8	41,620	9.2	9.2
Huntsville	97,776	147,512	131,628	12.1	132,650	5.2	4.6
Mobile	172,248	247,139	226,605	9.1	205,860	7.2	7.1
Montgomery	103,112	207,752	180,571	15.1	136,780	6.1	5.5
Tuscaloosa	50,628	77,896	76,633	1.6	71,030	4.6	4.8
Counties							
Autauga	8,979	14,857	11,714	26.8	16,000	6.7	6.8
Baldwin	29,747	40,804	32,299	26.3	39,710	6.8	6.6
Barbour	5,162	9,229	8,508	8.5	12,040	6.9	6.4
Bibb	2,390	3,889	4,431	-12.2	6,860	10.8	11.4
Blount	7,910	9,371	10,506	-10.8	16,580	5.7	5.8
Bullock	1,168	2,248	2,502	-10.2	4,040	10.5	12.7
Butler	3,592	5,274	5,722	-7.8	8,250	12.8	12.1
Calhoun	36,451	57,248	60,814	-5.9	51,100	6.6	6.4
Chambers	8,337	11,867	10,431	13.8	16,330	5.2	5.1
Cherokee	4,880	6,620	4,641	42.6	8,430	8.5	8.1
Chilton	7,415	10,408	11,903	-12.6	15,090	9.4	9.3
Choctaw	2,009	3,438	3,580	-4.0	6,810	14.2	14.3
Clarke	7,062	9,315	9,759	-4.5	11,170	7.8	7.3
Clay	2,348	3,165	3,032	4.4	6,360	5.5	5.7
Cleburne	2,240	2,493	2,639	-5.5	5,380	6.4	5.4
Coffee	12,123	15,940	18,070	-11.8	18,030	6.4	5.2
Colbert	20,196	30,729	30,599	0.4	23,640	8.1	8.8
Conecuh	1,979	2,901	2,694	7.7	5,570	7.8	9.1
Coosa	946	1,085	1,167	-7.0	5,000	6.3	6.1
Covington	9,534	16,263	12,720	27.9	16,680	6.7	6.5
Crenshaw	3,411	4,010	3,781	6.1	6,540	6.8	6.3
Cullman	17,481	28,157	25,867	8.9	32,490	6.4	6.7
Dale	9,896	13,596	11,741	15.8	18,160	7.7	7.4
Dallas	11,859	18,187	19,965	-8.9	19,630	11.9	12.3
De Kalb	14,431	20,617	20,800	-0.9	30,030	6.6	6.4
Elmore	7,482	13,367	10,393	28.6	21,800	5.6	5.0
Escambia	8,006	11,527	13,226	-12.8	15,400	9.0	8.8
Etowah	32,881	47,797	57,427	-16.8	41,620	9.2	9.2
Fayette	3,628	5,755	6,907	-16.7	7,860	9.9	7.8
Franklin	7,012	10,118	10,962	-7.7	14,420	12.8	10.3
Geneva	3,776	5,220	10,734	-51.4	11,070	5.8	5.5
Greene	1,722	2,119	1,583	33.9	3,560	11.5	9.8
Hale	1,675	3,088	2,573	20.0	6,210	8.4	7.1
Henry	2,423	4,383	4,308	1.7	7,160	5.6	4.7
Houston	42,069	61,935	58,396	6.1	40,150	4.7	4.9
Jackson	11,093	16,808	16,270	3.3	20,580	9.3	8.8
Jefferson	281,782	442,062	476,936	-7.3	324,090	4.8	4.9
Lamar	2,444	3,551	3,454	2.8	8,330	8.7	7.7
Lauderdale	29,221	54,837	52,001	5.5	36,730	6.3	6.5
Lawrence	4,526	6,736	6,937	-2.9	12,840	10.7	10.1
Lee	29,909	43,697	41,821	4.5	41,570	3.9	4.2
Limestone	13,812	19,239	19,465	-1.2	30,210	6.2	6.2
Lowndes	1,437	2,521	2,448	3.0	5,850	12.8	10.9
Macon	4,251	5,196	3,921	32.5	9,830	6.9	6.0
Madison	97,776	147,512	131,628	12.1	132,650	5.2	4.6
Marengo	5,410	8,419	7,685	9.6	9,470	7.1	7.0
Marion	7,144	11,173	10,994	1.6	15,270	18.7	13.5
Marshall	28,233	40,665	42,237	-3.7	38,110	7.3	7.6
Mobile	142,501	206,335	194,306	6.2	166,150	7.3	7.2
Monroe	4,777	9,817	7,603	29.1	10,360	10.2	10.3
Montgomery	86,651	179,528	158,464	13.3	98,980	6.2	5.4
Morgan	38,359	55,480	61,682	-10.1	48,030	6.9	6.8
Perry	1,666	2,621	2,173	20.6	5,410	17.1	16.7
Pickens	3,395	4,944	3,925	26.0	7,130	9.2	9.9
Pike	8,783	11,580	10,804	7.2	12,770	5.5	5.3
Randolph	4,545	6,193	6,585	-6.0	8,770	7.0	7.1
Russell	9,660	14,047	12,683	10.8	21,990	6.1	5.5
St. Clair	8,216	11,985	13,950	-14.1	21,590	5.8	5.5
Shelby	28,672	36,868	31,489	17.1	42,590	4.5	3.9
Sumter	2,986	3,352	3,100	8.1	5,930	8.8	8.9
Talladega	19,377	31,963	30,191	5.9	31,440	9.4	9.1
Tallapoosa	8,975	12,847	14,062	-8.6	18,450	5.4	5.1
Tuscaloosa	50,628	77,896	76,633	1.6	71,030	4.6	4.8
Walker	29,771	34,459	35,708	-3.5	28,590	10.3	11.2
Washington	1,674	2,034	1,834	10.9	6,370	10.0	10.9
Wilcox	1,625	2,545	2,134	19.3	3,970	12.4	12.4
Winston	6,267	8,444	8,956	-5.7	10,760	15.5	10.4

SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	Jan 1990	Dec 1989	Jan 1989	Percent Change Jan 89-Jan 90	Annual 1988	Annual 1989
Prices						
Consumer Price Index, U.S. All items (1982-84=100)	127.4	126.1	121.1	5.2	118.3	124.0
Producer Price Index, U.S. All commodities (1982=100)	114.9	113.0	110.5	4.0	106.9	112.2
Consumer Purchasing Power of the Dollar	0.78	0.79	0.83	-4.9	0.85	0.81
Alabama Employment						
Total Employment (1,000)	1,749.0	1,778.9	1,734.7	0.8	1,738.0	1,773.0
Nonagricultural	1,590.8	1,603.1	1,561.7	1.9	1,558.7	1,588.3
Manufacturing	381.2	381.1	380.6	0.2	380.6	383.8
Durable goods	186.2	187.1	185.5	0.4	184.0	187.5
Nondurable goods	195.0	194.0	195.1	-0.1	196.6	196.3
Nonmanufacturing	1,209.6	1,222.0	1,181.1	2.4	1,178.1	1,204.5
Mining and quarrying	11.8	11.9	11.6	1.7	11.2	11.3
Contract construction	76.2	76.7	71.2	7.0	78.0	75.9
Trans, comm., and utilities	79.5	80.2	80.1	-0.7	79.5	80.1
Wholesale trade	84.2	84.7	82.5	2.1	80.9	84.2
Retail trade	263.7	274.5	259.7	1.5	258.8	264.9
Finance, insurance, real estate	71.3	71.2	70.2	1.6	70.3	70.9
Services and miscellaneous	305.0	305.0	293.8	3.8	289.8	302.4
Federal government	65.1	65.4	64.3	1.2	66.0	64.9
State and local government	252.8	252.4	247.7	2.1	243.5	249.8
Other Alabama Indicators						
Bituminous coal production (1,000 net tons)	2,493	1,813	2,478	0.6	26,055	26,574
Natural gas production (mil cu ft)	15,300	14,419	16,717	-8.5	176,008	181,285
Crude oil and condensate production (1,000 barrels)	1,611	1,559	1,547	4.2	20,597	19,622
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs)	39,353	41,223	41,932	-6.2	482,002	546,490
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	638	548	619	3.1	6,977	7,027
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile (1,000 tons)	3,885	3,028	3,123	24.4	32,684	36,575
New passenger car registrations*	10,951	10,137	9,256	18.3	133,614	116,117

	Jan 1990	Dec 1989	Dec 1988	Percent Change Dec 88-Dec 89	Annual 1988	Annual 1989
Alabama Taxable Retail Sales ($1,000,000)						
Food	256	365	372	-1.7	4,128	4,202
General merchandise	150	394	413	-4.6	3,047	3,095
Apparel	43	132	141	-6.3	933	928
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	59	122	128	-4.6	1,035	1,023
Automotive	289	305	332	-8.1	4,233	4,220
Gasoline service stations	21	25	26	-2.2	294	308
Lumber and building materials	103	117	135	-13.5	1,713	1,650
Hardware and farm implements	14	19	22	-15.1	234	235
Eating and drinking places	113	171	174	-1.7	1,915	2,024
Drug stores	23	45	48	-4.5	418	410
Miscellaneous retail	111	232	234	-0.7	1,641	1,678
Nonretail & unclassified	226	295	306	-3.5	3,414	3,590
Total, all sales at retail	1,407	2,222	2,329	-4.6	23,006	23,363

Notes and Sources: Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year. Shipments by water include both inbound and outbound shipments moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because of late reporters. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms. *Data on new passenger car registrations may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

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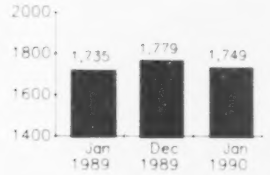
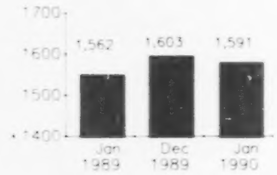

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)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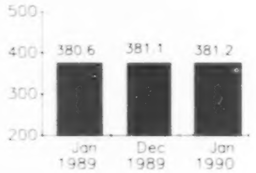
(Thousands)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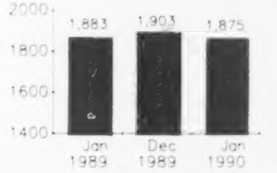
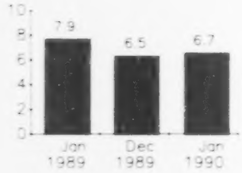
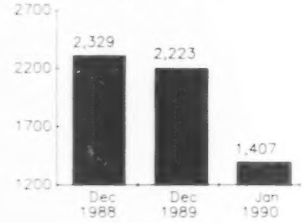
EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)


CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
(Thousands)


UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(Percent)


TOTAL RETAIL SALES
($ Millions)

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All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, ***Alabama Business***, Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone (205)348-6191.

Center for Business and Economic Research
The University of Alabama
Box 870221
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0221

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ALABAMA Business & ECONOMIC INDICATORS

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Alabama's Per Capita Income Ranking in 1989

Data recently released by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis indicates that Alabama's per capita personal income grew by 6.5 percent between 1988 and 1989, the same as the national average. At $13,679, Alabama's per capita income was equal to 77 percent of the national average and this ranked it 41st among all the states.

Alabama's ranking declined by one position from its 1988 level of 40th, although it improved over its 1986 and 1987 ranking of 42nd. Alabama's loss of one position in the state rankings came as a result of faster per capita income growth in Kentucky (7.4 percent) and Idaho (9.3 percent) and slower growth in South Carolina (5.3 percent) when compared to Alabama's 6.5 percent growth rate. As a result of these differential growth rates, Kentucky and Idaho moved ahead of Alabama, while South Carolina fell behind yielding in a one position change in Alabama's ranking.

Although per capita income growth in Alabama was equal to that of the United States, the suggestion of comparable economic performance would be somewhat misleading. *Total personal income* in Alabama grew by only 6.9 percent between 1988 and 1989 compared to a national average of 7.6 percent and a Southeast average of 7.9 percent. A slower population growth rate for Alabama (0.4 percent compared to 1.0 percent for the United States) allowed the per capita income measure to register a faster growth rate.

When compared to the Southeastern states, Alabama ranked 7th among the 12 states in 1989. This position reflects no movement from 1988 or 1987, but a drop from 6th position in 1986. The loss of one position over this four year period can again be accounted for by stronger growth in Kentucky and slower growth in South Carolina.

While rankings of per capita income can be instructive, they must be used in conjunction with absolute measures of income to gain a clear understanding of economic performance. For example, per capita income in Kentucky grew faster than it did in Alabama between 1988 and 1989 and allowed Kentucky to rank 39th compared with Alabama's 41st ranking. However, the total dollar difference between Alabama's and Kentucky's per capita income was *only 98 dollars* in 1989. Kentucky's per capita income was less than one percent higher than Alabama's per capita income. It is doubtful that residents of Kentucky derive any significant economic benefits from this higher per capita income.

The relatively constant position of Alabama in the income rankings suggests that closing the gap between Alabama and the national average will not be easy nor will it come quickly. Fundamental changes in the structure of the economy are the keys to improved economic well-being of the state's residents. Improvements in rankings will then follow.

William D. Gunther

Per Capita Personal Income and Rankings, Southeastern (SE) States, 1989

States	Income 1989	SE Rank 1989	SE Rank 1986	U.S. Rank 1989
Virginia	$18,970	1	1	10
Florida	17,694	2	2	17
Georgia	16,188	3	3	26
North Carolina	15,221	4	4	34
Tennessee	14,765	5	5	35
Kentucky	13,777	6	8	39
Alabama	13,679	7	6	41
South Carolina	13,616	8	7	42
Louisiana	13,041	9	9	46
Arkansas	12,984	10	10	48
West Virginia	12,529	11	11	49
Mississippi	11,835	12	12	50
United States	$17,567	--	--	--

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

The University of Alabama

	TAXABLE RETAIL SALES (in thousands of current dollars)				LABOR FORCE		
	Feb 1990^{P}	Jan 1990^{r}	Jan 1989	Percent Change Jan 89-Jan 90	Civilian Labor Force Feb 1990	Unemployment Rate Feb 90	Jan 90
Alabama, State of	1,448,132	1,566,907	1,716,052	-8.7	1,870,900	7.2	6.7
MSAs							
Anniston	34,462	40,600	45,140	-10.1	50,950	7.0	6.6
Birmingham	351,635	384,962	448,166	-14.1	432,790	5.4	5.2
Decatur	40,770	44,552	50,116	-11.1	50,940	9.7	7.7
Dothan	48,830	54,700	58,986	-7.3	58,400	5.6	5.6
Florence	52,505	58,434	62,299	-6.2	60,450	7.7	7.0
Gadsden	31,431	34,001	39,234	-13.3	41,890	10.5	9.2
Huntsville	97,943	106,375	117,229	-9.3	131,940	[illegible]	5.2
Mobile	173,903	185,458	194,544	-4.7	204,590	[illegible]	7.2
Montgomery	125,036	129,722	152,034	-14.7	136,060	6.1	6.1
Tuscaloosa	51,380	54,915	60,947	-9.9	72,040	9.5	4.6
Counties							
Autauga	10,070	10,429	13,180	-20.9	15,930	6.7	6.7
Baldwin	31,971	34,908	35,282	-1.1	39,380	6.7	6.8
Barbour	5,601	6,240	6,729	-7.3	11,920	7.1	6.9
Bibb	2,487	3,078	3,436	-10.4	7,030	8.8	10.8
Blount	6,678	8,282	8,460	-2.1	16,710	6.8	5.7
Bullock	1,234	1,201	1,783	-32.6	4,040	10.9	10.5
Butler	3,615	3,951	4,751	-16.8	8,130	13.8	12.8
Calhoun	34,462	40,600	45,140	-10.1	50,950	7.0	6.6
Chambers	7,621	9,120	9,832	-7.2	16,330	6.6	5.2
Cherokee	4,004	4,954	4,965	-0.2	8,390	8.2	8.5
Chilton	7,718	8,458	8,977	-5.8	15,130	8.3	9.4
Choctaw	2,254	2,118	2,741	-22.7	6,730	14.7	14.2
Clarke	6,475	7,394	7,729	-4.3	11,120	8.5	7.8
Clay	2,328	2,363	2,834	-16.6	6,370	5.2	5.5
Cleburne	2,232	2,319	2,620	-11.5	5,350	7.0	6.4
Coffee	9,956	12,475	14,151	-11.8	17,940	5.9	6.4
Colbert	22,155	24,960	27,596	-9.6	23,550	8.4	8.1
Conecuh	2,088	2,196	3,117	-29.5	5,590	8.8	7.8
Coosa	884	964	990	-2.6	4,970	6.0	6.3
Covington	11,847	11,951	12,498	-4.4	16,650	6.7	6.7
Crenshaw	3,580	3,445	3,502	-1.6	6,500	7.4	6.8
Cullman	17,742	18,950	22,818	-17.0	32,290	6.9	6.4
Dale	7,949	10,854	11,267	-3.7	18,200	7.7	7.7
Dallas	10,589	12,303	15,241	-19.3	19,420	11.0	11.9
De Kalb	13,837	14,029	15,050	-6.8	29,670	6.8	6.6
Elmore	10.556	11,196	11,444	-2.2	21,750	5.8	5.6
Escambia	8,517	8,517	9,318	-8.6	15,250	9.0	9.0
Etowah	31,431	34,001	39,234	-13.3	41,890	10.5	9.2
Fayette	3,763	4,219	4,470	-5.6	7,930	13.9	9.9
Franklin	6,241	7,339	7,876	-6.8	14,160	11.1	12.8
Geneva	3,651	3,873	4,640	-16.5	10,930	5.3	5.8
Greene	1,709	1,841	1,806	1.9	3,590	13.3	11.5
Hale	2,179	2,397	2,565	-6.5	6,120	11.4	8.4
Henry	2,794	2,467	3,290	-25.0	7,090	5.5	5.6
Houston	40,881	43,846	47,719	-8.1	40,190	4.6	4.7
Jackson	10,431	11,330	12,903	-12.2	20,600	9.6	9.3
Jefferson	287,214	307,431	367,655	-16.4	323,900	5.0	4.8
Lamar	2,625	2,527	2,887	-12.5	8,180	7.9	8.7
Lauderdale	30,450	33,474	34,703	-3.5	36,890	7.2	6.3
Lawrence	3,486	4,615	5,270	-12.4	12,880	12.7	10.7
Lee	25,262	33,032	33,243	-0.6	41,720	6.9	3.9
Limestone	13,447	14,057	15,893	-11.6	30,410	6.2	6.2
Lowndes	1,594	1,458	1,651	-11.7	5,680	13.7	12.8
Macon	4,265	5,194	4,853	7.0	9,960	7.8	6.9
Madison	97,943	106,375	117,229	-9.3	131,940	5.1	5.2
Marengo	5,469	6,468	6,830	-5.3	9,540	7.6	7.1
Marion	6,836	7,889	9,107	-13.4	14,870	14.1	18.7
Marshall	26,269	29,987	32,274	-7.1	38,300	8.2	7.3
Mobile	141,932	150,550	159,262	-5.5	165,220	7.4	7.3
Monroe	6,606	6,537	7,455	-12.3	10,370	10.5	10.2
Montgomery	104,410	108,097	127,410	-15.2	98,380	6.0	6.2
Morgan	37,284	39,937	44,846	-10.9	48,070	8.9	6.9
Perry	1,671	1,684	1,977	-14.8	5,430	12.5	17.1
Pickens	3,391	3,424	3,771	-9.2	7,410	13.5	9.2
Pike	7,871	9,640	11,386	-15.3	12,690	6.0	5.5
Randolph	4,081	4,741	5,554	-14.6	8,820	6.7	7.0
Russell	13,463	12,891	11,152	15.6	21,960	6.2	6.1
St. Clair	8,931	8,489	10,816	-21.5	21,660	6.4	5.8
Shelby	26,581	30,468	33,201	-8.2	42,230	4.0	4.5
Sumter	1,924	3,029	2,936	3.2	5,870	8.0	8.8
Talladega	20,780	23,149	26,752	-13.5	31,080	9.5	9.4
Tallapoosa	7,976	9,362	9,871	-5.2	18,260	6.0	5.4
Tuscaloosa	51,380	54,915	60,947	-9.9	72,040	9.5	4.6
Walker	22,231	30,292	28,034	8.1	28,290	9.7	10.3
Washington	1,872	1,732	1,902	-8.9	6,480	10.9	10.0
Wilcox	1,775	1,667	2,147	-22.4	3,950	12.6	12.4
Winston	6,117	6,532	6,736	-3.0	10,580	13.4	15.5

SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

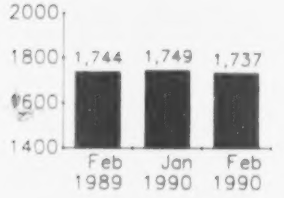
	Feb 1990	Jan 1990	Feb 1989	Percent Change Feb 89-Feb 90	Annual	
					1988	1989
Prices						
Consumer Price Index, U.S. All items (1982-84 = 100)	128.0	127.4	121.6	5.3	118.3	124.0
Producer Price Index, U.S. All commodities (1982 = 100)	114.4	114.9	110.8	3.2	106.9	112.2
Consumer Purchasing Power of the Dollar	0.78	0.78	0.82	-5.0	0.85	0.81
Alabama Employment						
Total Employment (1,000)	1,736.7	1,749.0	1,743.9	-0.4	1,738.0	1,773.0
Nonagricultural	1,586.5	1,590.8	1,570.8	1.0	1,558.7	1,588.3
Manufacturing	375.8	381.2	382.3	-1.7	380.6	383.8
Durable goods	185.3	186.2	185.8	-0.3	184.0	187.5
Nondurable goods	190.5	195.0	196.5	-3.1	196.6	196.3
Nonmanufacturing	1,210.7	1,209.6	1,188.5	1.9	1,178.1	1,204.5
Mining and quarrying	11.7	11.8	11.5	1.7	11.2	11.3
Contract construction	76.4	76.2	71.6	6.7	78.0	75.9
Trans, comm., and utilities	79.7	79.5	80.1	-0.5	79.5	80.1
Wholesale trade	84.4	84.2	83.0	1.7	80.9	84.2
Retail trade	260.8	263.7	258.0	1.1	258.8	264.9
Finance, insurance, real estate	71.0	71.3	70.5	0.7	70.3	70.9
Services and miscellaneous	306.0	305.0	298.3	2.6	289.8	302.4
Federal government	65.1	65.1	64.2	1.4	66.0	64.9
State and local government	255.6	252.8	251.3	1.7	243.5	249.8
Other Alabama Indicators						
Bituminous coal production (1,000 net tons)	2,295	2,493	2,394	-4.1	26,055	26,574
Natural gas production (mil cu ft)	14,137	15,300	14,672	-3.6	176,008	181,285
Crude oil and condensate production (1,000 barrels)	1,467	1,612	1,556	-5.7	20,597	19,622
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs)	46,720	50,324	39,300	18.9	482,002	546,490
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	569	638	551	3.3	6,977	7,027
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile (1,000 tons)	3,151	3,885	2,788	13.0	32,684	36,575
New passenger car registrations*	9,081	10,951	8,572	5.9	133,614	116,117

	Feb 1990	Jan 1990	Jan 1989	Percent Change Jan 89-Jan 90	Annual	
					1988	1989
Alabama Taxable Retail Sales ($1,000,000)						
Food	280	303	342	-11.5	4,128	4,205
General merchandise	145	187	198	-5.9	3,047	3,097
Apparel	53	49	53	-7.1	933	930
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	63	67	75	-11.8	1,035	1,024
Automotive	279	296	305	-3.0	4,233	4,222
Gasoline service stations	20	21	25	-13.7	294	308
Lumber and building materials	106	109	115	-5.1	1,713	1,652
Hardware and farm implements	14	14	17	-15.3	234	235
Eating and drinking places	132	132	150	-11.9	1,915	2,025
Drug stores	29	31	38	-20.1	418	410
Miscellaneous retail	103	118	130	-9.2	1,641	1,679
Nonretail & unclassified	224	240	267	-10.1	3,414	3,593
Total, all sales at retail	1,448	1,567	1,716	-8.7	23,006	23,380

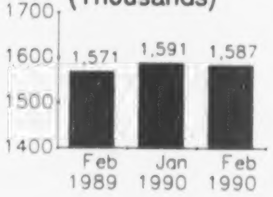
Notes and Sources: Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year. Shipments by water include both inbound and outbound shipments moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because of late reporters. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms. *Data on new passenger car registrations may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

Center for Business and Economic Research

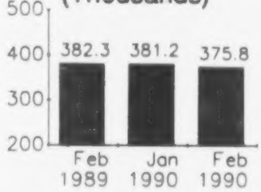
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



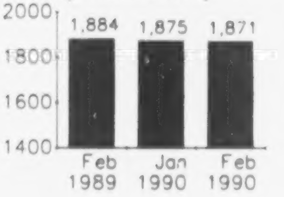
NONAGRICULTURAL
EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



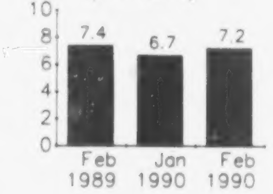
MANUFACTURING
EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



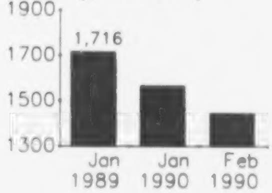
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
(Thousands)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(Percent)



TOTAL RETAIL SALES
($ Millions)



TAKE NOTE

Extremely low January and February 1990 retail sales figures shown in this issue reflect the Department of Revenue's implementation of a new data entry and computer system. Hopefully, initial problems with the system can be resolved and the revised numbers reported next month.

Alabama Business is a monthly publication of the Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, College of Commerce and Business Administration, The University of Alabama. Articles reflect the opinions of the authors, but not necessarily those of the staff of the Center, the faculty of the College of Commerce and Business Administration, or the administrative officials of The University of Alabama.

All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, ***Alabama Business***, Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone (205)348-6191.

Center for Business and Economic Research
The University of Alabama
Box 870221
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0221

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ALABAMA Business & ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Volume 59 Number 7 Center for Business and Economic Research July 1990

Creating a New Comparative Advantage for Alabama: The Key to the 1990s

As the story goes, Rip Van Winkle slept for 20 years to awaken to unfathomable changes to his world. Today that sleep would only have to last for a year or two to produce similar results. In today's high-tech, information-intensive global economy, change is not only expected, but necessary for survival. This rapidity of change is forcing many states to rethink a development strategy based upon promoting their existing comparative advantages.

Comparative advantage is defined as an advantage which arises when a *relative* (as opposed to absolute) efficiency exists. When a state has a comparative advantage it usually means that certain goods or services can be more efficiently produced there than in other locations. Alabama certainly could grow some wheat and Nebraska could grow some cotton, but it is more efficient for Alabama to grow cotton and import wheat while Nebraska exports wheat and imports cotton.

The factors which determine comparative advantage include the endowment of natural resources, human capital investment, capital equipment, and technology. Collectively they determine the overall level of productivity of a state and in turn its competitiveness in national and world markets. Once a state accurately determines its comparative advantage, an economic development strategy can be developed. As long as the combination of factors which determine comparative advantage do not change, a state's comparative advantage (and development strategy) can be maintained. However, recall that comparative advantage is a relative advantage and is not based upon internal or absolute factors alone.

Reduced trade barriers, improved communications, speedier and more efficient transportation networks, and rapid technology transfer are all important forces operating in today's global economy. These forces have led to the rapid entry of other countries into the comparative advantage calculation. Based upon the data on their increasing share of world exports, some of these countries have a significant comparative advantage. For example, the "Four Tigers" (Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Singapore) plus China and Japan accounted for only 8.2 percent of world exports in 1967. Just 10 years later (1977), they accounted for 11.9 percent, and in 1987 they accounted for 19.1 percent of world exports. This increase in the share of world exports was at the expense of other countries whose share declined. Since most of these countries offer a comparative advantage based upon a relatively low cost of production, a comparative advantage based upon low labor cost in Alabama is not likely to be a sustainable advantage in a global economy.

Given the speed with which new competitors can enter the market for goods and services, a sustainable comparative advantage must be built upon factors which are not quickly and easily matched. Those factors include technological superiority, a highly skilled and productive labor force, a modern and efficient infrastructure, and a high quality of life. Collectively, these factors can result in a highly productive labor force capable of attracting new business from outside the state's borders. But more importantly, such a combination of factors will create an environment in which economic activity springs up from within the state, a source of growth that is becoming more important. If these factors are not part of a state's current inventory of economic assets, then they will need to be created. A comparative advantage based upon low cost of labor will not produce a successful economic development strategy in the 1990s.

William D. Gunther

WORLD EXPORTS
(Billions of dollars)

	1967	1977	1987
World	$198.9	$1,058.3	$2,358.3
Four Tigers			
Taiwan	0.7	10.0	54.0
South Korea	0.3	10.0	47.3
Hong Kong	1.5	9.6	48.5
Singapore	1.1	8.2	28.7
China	2.4	7.5	40.0
Japan	10.4	81.1	231.3
Total	$16.4	$126.4	$449.8
World Share	8.2%	11.9%	19.1%

Source: IMF International Financial Statistics Yearbook, and Taiwan Statistical Data Book.

The University of Alabama

	TAXABLE RETAIL SALES (in thousands of current dollars)				LABOR FORCE		
	Mar 1990^{p}	Feb 1990^{r}	Feb 1989	Percent Change Feb 90-Feb 89	Civilian Labor Force Mar 1990	Unemployment Rate Mar 90	Feb 90
Alabama, State of	1,811,985	1,546,725	1,668,018	-7.3	1,896,200	6.9	7.2
MSAs							
Anniston	43,932	39,792	43,207	-7.9	51,490	7.7	7.0
Birmingham	449,877	373,003	430,192	-13.3	439,870	5.6	5.4
Decatur	46,870	44,622	46,029	-3.1	60,970	6.9	9.7
Dothan	62,511	54,965	59,105	-7.0	59,450	5.4	5.6
Florence	62,933	59,135	58,377	1.3	60,940	6.4	7.7
Gadsden	37,152	35,925	37,218	-3.5	42,770	10.7	10.5
Huntsville	117,802	105,379	110,312	-4.5	133,310	4.6	5.1
Mobile	209,093	175,433	183,567	-4.4	208,310	6.7	7.3
Montgomery	150,856	127,322	142,987	-11.0	138,310	5.8	6.1
Tuscaloosa	62,151	53,932	59,726	-9.7	71,780	4.1	9.5
Counties							
Autauga	9,591	11,822	12,250	-3.5	16,120	6.0	6.7
Baldwin	42,896	33,659	33,968	-0.9	40,200	6.3	6.7
Barbour	8,759	5,660	6,556	-13.7	12,020	7.2	7.1
Bibb	3,240	3,084	3,306	-6.7	7,060	5.7	8.8
Blount	8,401	8,111	8,263	-1.8	18,280	13.6	6.8
Bullock	2,001	1,330	1,684	-21.0	4,110	9.8	10.9
Butler	5,337	3,783	4,321	-12.5	8,200	13.3	13.8
Calhoun	43,932	39,792	43,207	-7.9	51,490	7.7	7.0
Chambers	10,045	8,738	9,882	-11.6	16,690	7.4	6.6
Cherokee	5,994	4,070	4,897	-16.9	8,460	16.2	8.2
Chilton	10,010	9,284	8,845	5.0	15,180	7.7	8.3
Choctaw	3,055	2,359	2,772	-14.9	6,890	14.9	14.7
Clarke	8,707	6,543	7,589	-13.8	11,190	7.2	8.5
Clay	3,252	2,336	2,769	-15.6	6,570	11.6	5.2
Cleburne	2,677	2,259	2,203	2.5	5,640	8.9	7.0
Coffee	13,172	12,154	15,802	-23.1	18,360	9.4	5.9
Colbert	27,432	24,604	25,916	-5.1	23,930	7.8	8.4
Conecuh	2,488	2,122	2,499	-15.1	5,670	8.6	8.8
Coosa	1,130	905	1,051	-13.9	5,010	6.1	6.0
Covington	14,705	12,035	12,671	-5.0	17,100	12.5	6.7
Crenshaw	4,492	3,603	3,553	1.4	6,730	7.7	7.4
Cullman	22,436	20,708	21,578	-4.0	32,970	7.5	6.9
Dale	11,868	11,104	10,656	4.2	18,740	8.6	7.7
Dallas	13,265	12,748	14,792	-13.8	19,700	11.0	11.0
De Kalb	17,188	15,320	14,937	2.6	30,560	8.4	6.8
Elmore	13,227	10,738	11,100	-3.3	22,510	7.2	5.8
Escambia	11,218	8,682	9,258	-6.2	15,400	8.1	9.0
Etowah	37,152	35,925	37,218	-3.5	42,770	10.7	10.5
Fayette	5,087	3,878	4,431	-12.5	7,840	12.6	13.9
Franklin	7,634	7,387	7,328	0.8	14,610	15.7	11.1
Geneva	4,986	3,732	4,484	-16.8	11,160	5.3	5.3
Greene	2,125	1,725	1,727	-0.1	3,520	9.9	13.3
Hale	2,605	2,229	2,505	-11.0	5,990	7.2	11.4
Henry	3,405	2,817	3,557	-20.8	7,210	5.2	5.5
Houston	50,643	43,861	48,449	-9.5	40,720	3.9	4.6
Jackson	14,457	11,811	12,455	-5.2	21,000	9.8	9.6
Jefferson	371,711	300,592	349,858	-14.1	327,890	4.9	5.0
Lamar	3,311	2,644	2,783	-5.0	8,160	7.1	7.9
Lauderdale	35,501	34,531	32,461	6.4	37,010	5.5	7.2
Lawrence	4,659	4,331	4,970	-12.9	12,780	9.3	12.7
Lee	35,430	28,530	30,900	-7.7	41,780	8.2	6.9
Limestone	14,976	14,846	14,881	-0.2	30,620	6.2	6.2
Lowndes	2,302	1,594	1,778	-10.3	5,650	12.2	13.7
Macon	5,019	4,999	4,845	3.2	10,070	7.3	7.8
Madison	117,802	105,379	110,312	-4.5	133,310	4.6	5.1
Marengo	6,182	6,574	6,930	-5.1	9,590	6.5	7.6
Marion	11,062	8,255	8,174	1.0	14,990	12.5	14.1
Marshall	33,778	29,492	31,386	-6.0	38,440	9.7	8.2
Mobile	166,197	141,774	149,599	-5.2	168,100	6.7	7.4
Monroe	9,062	7,063	7,316	-3.5	10,540	9.2	10.5
Montgomery	128,038	104,762	119,637	-12.4	99,690	5.5	6.0
Morgan	42,211	40,291	41,059	-1.9	48,200	6.3	8.9
Perry	2,117	1,695	1,945	-12.9	5,410	8.0	12.5
Pickens	4,402	3,425	3,692	-7.2	7,240	9.4	13.5
Pike	9,092	8,954	10,421	-14.1	13,020	5.8	6.0
Randolph	5,599	4,847	5,212	-7.0	9,030	7.3	6.7
Russell	11,979	13,538	11,380	19.0	22,240	6.5	6.2
St. Clair	12,437	8,972	11,448	-21.6	21,760	5.5	6.4
Shelby	30,193	30,106	32,979	-8.7	42,570	3.4	4.0
Sumter	2,440	2,614	2,763	-5.4	5,950	7.5	8.0
Talladega	25,652	23,648	26,369	-10.3	31,750	10.2	9.5
Tallapoosa	10,568	9,109	9,399	-3.1	18,520	6.9	6.0
Tuscaloosa	62,151	53,932	59,726	-9.7	71,780	4.1	9.5
Walker	27,135	25,222	27,644	-8.8	29,360	11.8	9.7
Washington	2,081	1,885	1,860	1.3	6,540	10.3	10.9
Wilcox	2,261	1,815	1,987	-8.7	4,000	11.8	12.6
Winston	7,183	7,045	6,121	15.1	10,600	11.3	13.4

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Alabama Employment						
Total Employment (1,000)	1,764.5	1,736.7	1,776.2	-0.7	1,738.0	1,773.0
Nonagricultural	1,585.2	1,586.5	1,582.9	0.1	1,558.7	1,588.3
Manufacturing	371.5	375.8	382.3	-2.8	380.6	383.8
Durable goods	185.2	185.3	186.1	-0.5	184.0	187.5
Nondurable goods	186.3	190.5	196.2	-5.0	196.6	196.3
Nonmanufacturing	1,213.7	1,210.7	1,200.6	1.1	1,178.1	1,204.5
Mining and quarrying	11.8	11.7	11.6	1.7	11.2	11.3
Contract construction	76.7	76.4	74.2	3.4	78.0	75.9
Trans, comm., and utilities	80.0	79.7	80.8	-1.0	79.5	80.1
Wholesale trade	84.4	84.4	83.7	0.8	80.9	84.2
Retail trade	260.8	260.8	262.3	-0.6	258.8	264.9
Finance, insurance, real estate	70.9	71.0	70.9	0.0	70.3	70.9
Services and miscellaneous	306.6	306.0	301.6	1.7	289.8	302.4
Federal government	66.2	65.1	64.1	3.3	66.0	64.9
State and local government	256.3	255.6	251.4	1.9	243.5	249.8
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Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs)	54,736	46,980	45,356	20.7	482,002	546,490
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	563	569	583	-3.4	6,977	7,027
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile (1,000 tons)	2,997	3,151	3,067	-2.3	32,684	36,575
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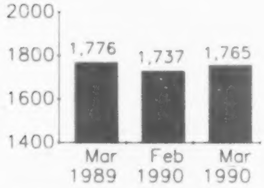
General merchandise	170	214	197	8.9	3,047	3,097
Apparel	81	54	53	2.6	933	930
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	84	66	70	-5.8	1,035	1,025
Automotive	371	281	305	-7.8	4,233	4,223
Gasoline service stations	26	20	22	-8.7	294	308
Lumber and building materials	152	108	104	3.6	1,713	1,652
Hardware and farm implements	19	14	15	-5.5	234	235
Eating and drinking places	180	138	146	-6.0	1,915	2,027
Drug stores	29	29	34	-15.6	418	410
Miscellaneous retail	134	107	125	-14.5	1,641	1,680
Nonretail & unclassified	286	233	265	-12.2	3,414	3,595
Total, all sales at retail	1,812	1,547	1,668	-7.3	23,006	23,388

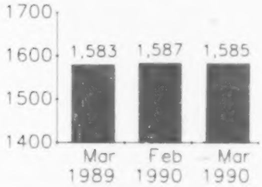
Notes and Sources: Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year. Shipments by water include both inbound and outbound shipments moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because of late reporters. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms. *Data on new passenger car registrations may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

Center for Business and Economic Research

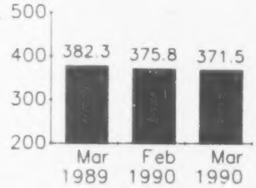
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



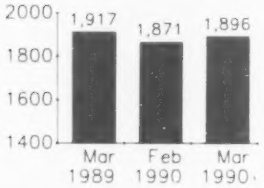
NONAGRICULTURAL
EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



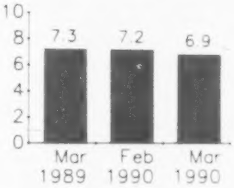
MANUFACTURING
EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



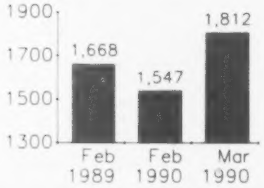
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
(Thousands)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(Percent)



TOTAL RETAIL SALES
($ Millions)



TAKE NOTE

February 1990 retail sales figures reported in this issue continue to be low. New data tapes just received from the Department of Revenue for January and February 1990 are being processed, and corrected numbers will be available soon. Preliminary data for March 1990 are correct.

__Alabama Business__ is a monthly publication of the Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, College of Commerce and Business Administration, The University of Alabama. Articles reflect the opinions of the authors, but not necessarily those of the staff of the Center, the faculty of the College of Commerce and Business Administration, or the administrative officials of The University of Alabama.

All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, __Alabama Business__, Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone (205)348-6191.

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ALABAMA Business & ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Volume 59 Number 8 Center for Business and Economic Research August 1990

How to Survive The Coming Labor Shortage

The three keys to future economic growth are increases in capital, a growing labor force, and rising productivity. One of those key ingredients, a growing labor force, is threatening to become a serious problem in Alabama.

The problem stems from a basic demographic fact--a declining fertility rate. In the 1950s Alabama's population was growing rapidly, resulting in a growing labor pool. However, from the early 1960s through the 1980s, the fertility rate has steadily declined. The state's fertility rate in the 1980s was about 1.7 births per female of child-bearing age, compared to 3.6 in 1960. This decline in the fertility rate can be explained by a rise in the number of women in the labor force, increases in the availability of contraceptive devices, a rising divorce rate, and an increase in the number of abortion opportunities.

Obviously, children born in the 1970s and 1980s will constitute the labor pool for the 1990s and the early part of the next century. As shown in the accompanying chart, the growth rate of the labor force in Alabama is expected to decline throughout the next two decades. Indeed, evidence that the shortage may already be here can be found in a recent Department of Labor report which notes that the number of 16 to 24 year olds nationwide who entered the labor market in July of this year is off by some 933,000 individuals from the previous year.

What are the implications of the labor force shortages? The first implication is that wages are more likely to continue to rise as a result of the shortages. While these wage pressures can be somewhat offset by greater productivity, it is still likely that real wages will rise unless workers from tradional sources are augmented by an influx of workers from nontraditional sources.

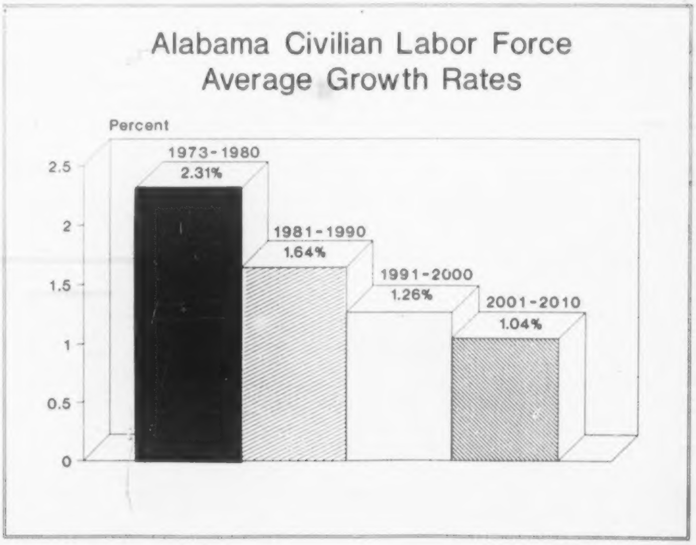
A second, and perhaps equally obvious, implication of the labor shortage is the increased importance of recruiting, training, retraining, and retaining workers. At the national level, it is estimated that only one third of new entrants to the labor pool in the 1990s will come from the traditional source, white males. Increasing numbers of women, immigrants, minorities, and recycled (returning retirees) workers will be needed to fill this void. Recruiting these workers successfully will require innovative ways of managing human resources.

It is likely that the focus of human resource management in the 1990s will be fundamentally driven by this labor shortage. Businesses will need to develop flexible schedules to accommodate families with children. Minorities may need remedial training in basic skills. Immigrants will require special educational opportunities. And an increasing number of retirees with essential skills will be willing to return to the labor force, but at hours that are convenient to them, not the employer.

While recruiting a diverse work force is the key to surviving a labor shortage, managing this diversity may create additional stress among an organization's existing employees. Unless the level of understanding among individuals with different employment needs increases, high turnover rates are likely to result.

Recruiting and managing this diverse work force will require creative skills in the coming years.

William D. Gunther



Alabama Civilian Labor Force Average Growth Rates

The University of Alabama

	TAXABLE RETAIL SALES (in thousands of current dollars)				LABOR FORCE		
	Feb 1990^r	Jan 1990^r	Feb 1989	Percent Change Feb 90-Feb 89	Civilian Labor Force Apr 1990	Unemployment Rate Apr 90	Unemployment Rate Mar 90
Alabama, State of	1,698,732	1,769,500	1,668,404	1.8	1,905,400	6.3	6.9
MSAs							
Anniston	42,849	44,745	43,212	-0.8	51,540	6.8	7.7
Birmingham	424,591	446,259	430,453	-1.4	442,810	5.1	5.6
Decatur	47,791	49,844	46,029	3.8	60,730	6.7	6.9
Dothan	58,385	61,864	59,105	-1.2	59,790	5.4	5.4
Florence	64,312	65,237	58,377	10.2	61,670	6.2	6.4
Gadsden	37,482	37,530	37,218	0.7	42,680	9.7	10.7
Huntsville	114,680	119,426	110,312	4.0	133,970	4.5	4.6
Mobile	188,357	199,367	183,567	2.6	210,630	6.8	6.7
Montgomery	141,325	147,444	142,987	-1.2	139,720	5.9	5.8
Tuscaloosa	60,154	62,592	59,726	0.7	73,170	4.3	4.1
Counties							
Autauga	12,178	12,411	12,250	-0.6	16,390	6.7	6.0
Baldwin	36,127	37,899	33,968	6.4	40,140	5.3	6.3
Barbour	6,532	7,129	6,556	-0.4	12,350	7.3	7.2
Bibb	3,299	3,349	3,306	-0.2	7,160	5.6	5.7
Blount	8,735	8,973	8,258	5.8	17,090	6.5	13.6
Bullock	1,633	1,656	1,684	-3.0	4,190	10.3	9.8
Butler	4,129	4,398	4,321	-4.4	8,260	12.6	13.3
Calhoun	42,849	44,745	43,212	-0.8	51,540	6.8	7.7
Chambers	10,119	10,844	9,882	2.4	16,410	5.4	7.4
Cherokee	5,291	5,564	4,897	8.0	8,560	7.0	16.2
Chilton	9,808	9,412	8,845	10.9	15,170	8.3	7.7
Choctaw	2,603	2,737	2,772	-6.1	6,860	14.1	14.9
Clarke	6,969	7,850	7,589	-8.2	11,220	7.3	7.2
Clay	2,765	2,857	2,769	-0.1	6,600	5.6	11.6
Cleburne	2,375	2,405	2,203	7.8	5,570	7.8	8.9
Coffee	13,320	14,071	15,802	-15.7	18,330	7.7	9.4
Colbert	27,693	28,358	25,916	6.9	24,100	7.1	7.8
Conecuh	2,363	2,602	2,499	-5.4	5,540	7.0	8.6
Coosa	927	1,016	1,051	-11.8	5,050	5.3	6.1
Covington	13,064	13,701	12,671	3.1	16,830	6.3	12.5
Crenshaw	3,751	3,590	3,553	5.6	6,660	6.9	7.7
Cullman	23,618	22,575	21,578	9.5	32,650	6.1	7.5
Dale	11,817	11,748	10,656	10.9	18,660	7.7	8.6
Dallas	13,811	13,691	14,792	-6.6	19,740	10.2	11.0
De Kalb	16,109	16,711	14,937	7.8	30,020	6.5	8.4
Elmore	12,212	12,809	11,100	10.0	22,330	5.6	7.2
Escambia	9,233	9,266	9,258	-0.3	15,440	8.3	8.1
Etowah	37,482	37,530	37,218	0.7	42,680	9.7	10.7
Fayette	4,527	4,931	4,431	2.2	7,870	10.6	12.6
Franklin	7,659	7,743	7,328	4.5	14,320	7.4	15.7
Geneva	4,173	4,349	4,484	-6.9	11,400	5.1	5.3
Greene	1,755	1,904	1,727	1.6	3,600	10.1	9.9
Hale	2,495	2,647	2,505	-0.4	6,090	7.4	7.2
Henry	2,976	2,788	3,557	-16.3	7,220	5.5	5.2
Houston	46,568	50,116	48,449	-3.9	41,130	4.4	3.9
Jackson	13,054	12,596	12,455	4.8	20,950	8.9	9.8
Jefferson	345,243	359,573	350,124	-1.4	332,100	5.0	4.9
Lamar	2,766	2,731	2,783	-0.6	8,180	6.4	7.1
Lauderdale	36,619	36,879	32,461	12.8	37,580	5.6	5.5
Lawrence	5,172	5,188	4,970	4.1	12,660	8.5	9.3
Lee	29,702	35,183	30,900	-3.9	41,940	4.5	8.2
Limestone	15,698	16,135	14,881	5.5	30,680	5.7	6.2
Lowndes	1,760	1,598	1,778	-1.0	5,670	13.8	12.2
Macon	5,235	5,489	4,845	8.0	10,100	6.9	7.3
Madison	114,680	119,426	110,312	4.0	133,970	4.5	4.6
Marengo	6,828	7,004	6,930	-1.5	9,730	7.4	6.5
Marion	11,055	11,104	8,174	35.2	14,940	11.2	12.5
Marshall	32,367	33,755	31,386	3.1	38,180	6.3	9.7
Mobile	152,230	161,468	149,599	1.8	170,500	7.2	6.7
Monroe	7,666	7,148	7,316	4.8	10,660	8.8	9.2
Montgomery	116,935	122,224	119,637	-2.3	101,010	5.8	5.5
Morgan	42,619	44,656	41,059	3.8	48,080	6.2	6.3
Perry	1,857	1,869	1,945	-4.5	5,450	6.3	8.0
Pickens	3,936	3,894	3,692	6.6	7,130	8.5	9.4
Pike	9,238	10,050	10,421	-11.4	12,950	5.1	5.8
Randolph	5,340	5,435	5,212	2.5	8,910	6.7	7.3
Russell	14,246	13,509	11,380	25.2	22,350	6.7	6.5
St. Clair	10,846	10,903	11,448	-5.3	21,990	5.4	5.5
Shelby	32,708	33,721	32,979	-0.8	43,050	3.4	3.4
Sumter	2,861	3,209	2,763	3.5	5,980	7.6	7.5
Talladega	26,503	26,474	26,369	0.5	31,880	8.6	10.2
Tallapoosa	9,837	10,014	9,399	4.7	18,540	5.0	6.9
Tuscaloosa	60,154	62,592	59,726	0.7	73,170	4.3	4.1
Walker	27,059	33,089	27,644	-2.1	28,590	8.3	11.8
Washington	1,971	1,797	1,860	6.0	6,600	10.5	10.3
Wilcox	1,897	1,955	1,987	-4.5	4,070	12.5	11.8
Winston	7,482	7,115	6,121	22.2	10,620	9.2	11.3

SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

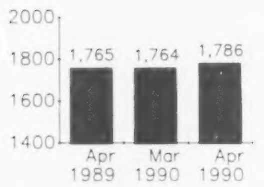
	Apr 1990	Mar 1990	Apr 1989	Percent Change Apr 90-Apr 89	Annual 1988	Annual 1989
Prices						
Consumer Price Index, U.S. All Items (1982-84=100)	128.9	128.7	123.1	4.7	118.3	124.0
Producer Price Index, U.S. All commodities (1982=100)	114.0	114.2	112.3	1.5	106.9	112.2
Consumer Purchasing Power of the Dollar	0.78	0.78	0.81	-4.5	0.85	0.81
Alabama Employment						
Total Employment (1,000)	1,786.3	1,764.5	1,765.0	1.2	1,738.0	1,773.0
Nonagricultural	1,601.2	1,585.2	1,589.9	0.7	1,558.7	1,588.3
Manufacturing	382.4	371.5	384.4	-0.5	380.6	383.8
Durable goods	187.3	185.2	187.7	-0.2	184.0	187.5
Nondurable goods	195.1	186.3	196.7	-0.8	196.6	196.3
Nonmanufacturing	1,218.8	1,213.7	1,205.5	1.1	1,178.1	1,204.5
Mining and quarrying	11.8	11.8	11.6	1.7	11.2	11.3
Contract construction	77.1	76.7	76.4	0.9	78.0	75.9
Trans, comm., and utilities	79.8	80.0	80.3	-0.6	79.5	80.1
Wholesale trade	84.4	84.4	84.1	0.4	80.9	84.2
Retail trade	262.4	260.8	262.6	-0.1	258.8	264.9
Finance, insurance, real estate	71.3	70.9	70.8	0.7	70.3	70.9
Services and miscellaneous	307.6	306.6	302.9	1.6	289.8	302.4
Federal government	66.6	66.2	64.2	3.7	66.0	64.9
State and local government	257.8	256.3	252.6	2.1	243.5	249.8
Other Alabama Indicators						
Bituminous coal production (1,000 net tons)	2,313	2,542	2,426	-4.7	26,055	26,574
Natural gas production (mil cu ft)	15,477	15,619	15,407	0.5	176,008	181,285
Crude oil and condensate production (1,000 barrels)	1,558	1,615	1,700	-8.4	20,597	19,622
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs)	46,851	53,196	41,760	12.2	482,002	546,490
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	572	570	613	-6.7	6,977	7,027
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile (1,000 tons)	3,068	2,997	2,736	12.1	32,684	36,575
New passenger car registrations*	9,828	9,716	10,212	-3.8	133,614	116,117

	Feb 1990	Jan 1990	Feb 1989	Percent Change Feb 90-Feb 89	Annual 1988	Annual 1989
Alabama Taxable Retail Sales ($1,000,000)						
Food	298	326	331	-9.8	4,128	4,210
General merchandise	217	206	197	10.1	3,047	3,097
Apparel	59	54	53	10.2	933	931
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	73	77	70	4.3	1,035	1,026
Automotive	312	332	305	2.0	4,233	4,223
Gasoline service stations	22	23	22	1.8	294	308
Lumber and building materials	126	124	104	21.4	1,713	1,642
Hardware and farm implements	16	16	15	3.7	234	235
Eating and drinking places	156	156	147	6.2	1,915	2,029
Drug stores	29	31	34	-14.4	418	410
Miscellaneous retail	127	138	125	1.7	1,641	1,685
Nonretail & unclassified	264	286	265	-0.5	3,414	3,732
Total, all sales at retail	1,699	1,770	1,668	1.8	23,006	23,527

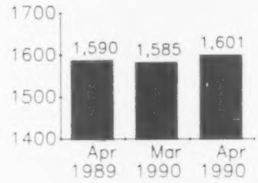
Notes and Sources: Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year. Shipments by water include both inbound and outbound shipments moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because of late reporters. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms. *Data on new passenger car registrations may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

Center for Business and Economic Research

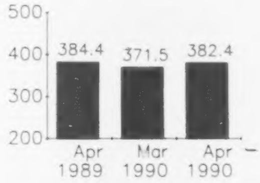
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)



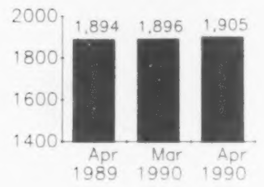
NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)



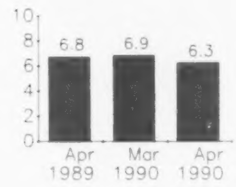
MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)



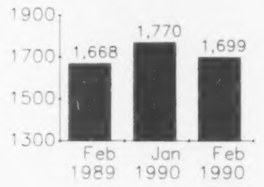
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (Thousands)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (Percent)



TOTAL RETAIL SALES ($ Millions)



Retail Trade Notice

Corrected values for January and February 1990 taxable retail sales are reported in this issue, replacing the amounts previously listed. No further corrections are anticipated.

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*All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, **Alabama Business**, Center for Business and Economic Research, Division of Research and Service, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone (205)348-6191.*

Center for Business and Economic Research
The University of Alabama
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Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0221

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ALABAMA Business & ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Volume 59 Number 9 Center for Business and Economic Research September 1990

Unemployment Rates and Recessions

Recent events in the Middle East have raised the probability of a recession in 1990. Each month new statistical data (slowing retail trade, GNP growth, and industrial production) are added to existing evidence of a weakening national economy. Yet the nation's unemployment rate of 5.3 percent continues to suggest some strength. While the unemployment rate may have been a reasonable coincident indicator of recessions in the past, have fundamental changes in the economy made the unemployment rate a less reliable indicator of economic conditions today?

Lessons from the Past

The two most recent U.S. recessions occurred in 1980-81 and 1982. In these two recessions, the national unemployment rate reached 7.6 and 9.7 percent respectively. The Alabama unemployment rate climbed to 10.6 percent in 1981 and 14.4 percent in 1982, 3.0 and 4.7 percentage points higher than the national rate. From 1980 through 1989, the State's unemployment rate averaged 2.7 percentage points above the national average. In 1989 the national unemployment rate averaged 5.3 percent, while the Alabama rate averaged 7.6 percent, 2.3 percentage points higher than the national average.

These persistent differences in unemployment rates can be explained by differences in the economic structures of Alabama and the nation. Alabama has a larger share of employment in the manufacturing sector, a sector that is far more sensitive to interest rates and thus, more volatile over the business cycle. This greater dependence on manufacturing raises Alabama's unemployment rate and produces wider swings than occur at the national level. However, as the structural differences between Alabama and the United States narrow, the unemployment rate differentials can be expected to narrow as well.

Unemployment During a Future Recession

Three key factors suggest that a national recession will not impact future Alabama unemployment rates as dramatically as in the past. The first point is that many of Alabama's manufacturing firms undertook modernization programs following the last recession (1982). These investments were probably driven by the need to be more competitive, but have the side effect of making these firms less sensitive (by being more productive) to cyclical factors. Such firms are less likely to lay off a productive labor force as a policy tool for balancing the books, especially when a recession is projected to be a mild one.

The second important factor, which will help to moderate any rise in the unemployment rate is a slowing in the growth of the nation's labor force. Labor shortages are likely to encourage firms to retain existing workers even when orders begin to fall off, since replacing and retraining workers may be more costly than retaining them.

Finally, the United States and Alabama economies have been restructuring away from a dependence upon durable goods manufacturing. The service sector, which is the fastest growing employment sector, tends to be more stable over the business cycle.

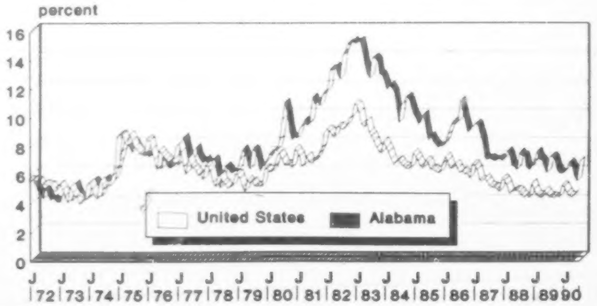
Caution Is the Best Strategy

These forces all suggest that unemployment rates are not likely to rise as quickly or to as high a level as they have in the past should a recession occur. But they also suggest that the unemployment rate may not be as good an indicator of economic stress as it has been in the past.

Unemployment rates of 14 percent experienced in 1982 are not likely to be repeated. Recent signals suggest that other economic indicators should be included with the unemployment rate when monitoring the state of the economy.

William D. Gunther

Alabama vs. United States Unemployment Rate



The University of Alabama

	TAXABLE RETAIL SALES (in thousands of current dollars)				LABOR FORCE		
	May 1990^{p}	Apr 1990^{r}	Apr 1989	Percent Change Apr 90-Apr 89	Civilian Labor Force May 1990	Unemployment Rate	
						May 90	Apr 90
Alabama, State of	2,008,219	2,011,168	1,925,706	4.4	1,916,900	5.9	6.3
MSAs							
Anniston	51,841	52,986	50,022	5.9	51,640	6.7	6.8
Birmingham	487,732	494,303	483,231	2.3	443,860	4.8	5.1
Decatur	55,992	55,109	56,348	-2.2	61,230	6.0	6.7
Dothan	66,393	69,143	66,477	4.0	60,030	5.1	5.4
Florence	72,382	70,073	71,326	-1.8	61,980	6.0	6.2
Gadsden	44,285	45,102	45,438	-0.7	42,910	9.2	9.7
Huntsville	132,658	128,067	126,432	1.3	134,600	4.0	4.5
Mobile	220,764	229,896	216,885	6.0	211,170	6.1	6.8
Montgomery	166,936	168,714	165,859	1.7	140,990	5.9	5.9
Tuscaloosa	74,183	70,730	63,028	12.2	74,410	4.9	4.3
Counties							
Autauga	15,029	14,934	14,620	2.1	16,450	6.3	6.7
Baldwin	47,201	46,831	43,702	7.2	40,240	4.5	5.3
Barbour	8,104	7,332	7,910	-7.3	12,310	6.8	7.3
Bibb	4,116	4,124	3,868	6.6	7,270	5.0	5.6
Blount	10,454	10,434	9,625	8.4	17,050	5.7	6.5
Bullock	1,815	1,933	1,800	7.4	4,190	8.9	10.3
Butler	5,144	5,531	5,033	9.9	8,270	10.9	12.6
Calhoun	51,841	52,986	50,022	5.9	51,640	6.7	6.8
Chambers	11,992	11,624	11,297	2.9	16,770	7.0	5.4
Cherokee	6,604	6,302	6,005	4.9	8,790	10.7	7.0
Chilton	11,741	11,293	11,111	1.6	15,050	6.8	8.3
Choctaw	3,019	2,816	3,034	-7.2	6,880	10.0	14.1
Clarke	8,970	8,742	8,931	-2.1	11,300	6.4	7.3
Clay	3,046	3,110	2,708	14.8	6,730	5.2	5.6
Cleburne	2,543	2,518	2,384	5.6	5,590	5.8	7.8
Coffee	17,847	16,352	15,892	2.9	18,800	7.3	7.7
Colbert	32,847	30,767	30,471	1.0	24,200	6.9	7.1
Conecuh	2,355	2,491	2,839	-12.3	5,600	6.9	7.0
Coosa	1,099	1,377	1,305	5.5	5,020	5.2	5.3
Covington	14,852	15,038	14,865	1.2	17,070	6.1	6.3
Crenshaw	3,279	3,563	3,428	3.9	6,810	7.3	6.9
Cullman	28,624	27,705	27,020	2.5	33,110	5.3	6.1
Dale	13,100	13,088	11,872	10.2	18,630	6.8	7.7
Dallas	17,814	17,658	17,456	1.2	20,280	8.7	10.2
De Kalb	19,900	19,620	18,316	7.1	30,620	6.4	6.5
Elmore	14,116	13,901	13,326	4.3	22,540	5.7	5.6
Escambia	11,582	11,439	11,528	-0.8	15,610	6.8	8.3
Etowah	44,285	45,102	45,438	-0.7	42,910	9.2	9.7
Fayette	5,339	5,478	4,748	15.4	7,830	8.8	10.6
Franklin	9,912	9,158	9,336	-1.9	14,430	6.9	7.4
Geneva	5,263	4,953	5,031	-1.6	11,480	4.9	5.1
Greene	2,024	1,975	2,106	-6.2	3,840	11.8	10.1
Hale	3,208	2,860	2,871	-0.4	6,090	6.3	7.4
Henry	3,321	3,102	3,607	-14.0	7,300	5.4	5.5
Houston	53,293	56,055	54,605	2.7	41,390	4.3	4.4
Jackson	16,132	15,626	15,898	-1.7	20,800	8.5	8.9
Jefferson	389,597	392,267	387,295	1.3	332,860	4.6	5.0
Lamar	3,459	3,040	3,324	-8.5	8,130	5.7	6.4
Lauderdale	39,535	39,306	40,855	-3.8	37,780	5.4	5.6
Lawrence	5,914	5,889	6,155	-4.3	12,740	7.7	8.5
Lee	39,100	39,105	37,623	3.9	42,310	7.0	4.5
Limestone	19,158	20,214	18,915	6.9	30,570	4.9	5.7
Lowndes	1,976	2,165	1,917	12.9	5,580	12.0	13.8
Macon	6,263	5,820	5,331	9.2	10,200	6.9	6.9
Madison	132,658	128,067	126,432	1.3	134,600	4.0	4.5
Marengo	8,487	8,551	7,900	8.2	9,830	5.9	7.4
Marion	13,006	12,996	10,518	23.6	14,890	9.8	11.2
Marshall	40,507	39,123	39,894	-1.9	38,700	6.1	6.3
Mobile	173,563	183,065	173,183	5.7	170,930	6.4	7.2
Monroe	8,674	8,335	8,353	-0.2	10,740	8.7	8.8
Montgomery	137,791	139,879	137,913	1.4	102,010	6.0	5.8
Morgan	50,078	49,220	50,193	-1.9	48,500	5.6	6.2
Perry	1,915	2,161	2,085	3.6	5,570	7.4	6.3
Pickens	4,386	4,462	4,530	-1.5	7,400	8.9	8.5
Pike	11,324	11,546	11,635	-0.8	13,210	6.5	5.1
Randolph	6,498	6,332	6,223	1.8	8,890	7.5	6.7
Russell	12,106	13,254	13,953	-5.0	22,480	6.5	6.7
St. Clair	13,376	16,301	13,753	18.5	22,140	5.5	5.4
Shelby	41,153	40,433	39,657	2.0	43,220	3.2	3.4
Sumter	3,475	3,363	3,089	8.9	6,050	7.0	7.6
Talladega	35,407	31,453	29,688	5.9	31,770	8.2	8.6
Tallapoosa	12,433	11,906	11,616	2.5	18,730	5.6	5.0
Tuscaloosa	74,183	70,730	63,028	12.2	74,410	4.9	4.3
Walker	33,152	34,868	32,901	6.0	28,590	7.8	8.3
Washington	2,159	1,864	2,446	-23.8	6,510	8.6	10.5
Wilcox	2,038	1,956	2,177	-10.2	4,070	9.9	12.5
Winston	8,526	8,180	7,790	5.0	10,690	8.8	9.2

SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	May 1990	Apr 1990	May 1989	Percent Change May 90-May 89	Annual 1988	Annual 1989
Prices						
Consumer Price Index, U.S. All Items (1982-84 = 100)	129.2	128.9	123.8	4.4	118.3	124.0
Producer Price Index, U.S. All commodities (1982 = 100)	114.5	114.0	113.2	1.1	106.9	112.2
Consumer Purchasing Power of the Dollar	0.77	0.78	0.81	-4.2	0.85	0.81
Alabama Employment						
Total Employment (1,000)	1,803.1	1,786.3	1,779.5	1.3	1,738.0	1,773.0
Nonagricultural	1,606.5	1,601.2	1,593.6	0.8	1,558.7	1,588.3
Manufacturing	381.1	382.4	384.8	-1.0	380.6	383.8
Durable goods	187.3	187.3	188.1	-0.4	184.0	187.5
Nondurable goods	193.8	195.1	196.7	-1.5	196.6	196.3
Nonmanufacturing	1,225.4	1,218.8	1,208.8	1.4	1,178.1	1,204.5
Mining and quarrying	11.9	11.8	11.6	2.6	11.2	11.3
Contract construction	77.8	77.1	76.8	1.3	78.0	75.9
Trans, comm., and utilities	80.3	79.8	80.0	0.4	79.5	80.1
Wholesale trade	84.6	84.4	84.0	0.7	80.9	84.2
Retail trade	263.3	262.4	264.0	-0.3	258.8	264.9
Finance, insurance, real estate	71.4	71.3	70.8	0.8	70.3	70.9
Services and miscellaneous	307.9	307.6	302.7	1.7	289.8	302.4
Federal government	69.1	66.6	64.6	7.0	66.0	64.9
State and local government	259.1	257.8	254.3	1.9	243.5	249.8
Other Alabama Indicators						
Bituminous coal production (1,000 net tons)	2,401	2,313	2,575	-6.8	26,055	26,574
Natural gas production (mil cu ft)	16,299	15,477	15,937	2.3	176,008	181,285
Crude oil and condensate production (1,000 barrels)	1,622	1,558	1,734	-6.5	20,597	19,622
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs)	53,061	46,851	49,634	6.9	482,002	546,490
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	552	572	574	-3.8	6,977	7,027
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile (1,000 tons)	3,498	3,068	3,752	-6.8	32,684	36,575
New passenger car registrations*	9,683	9,828	8,082	19.8	133,614	116,117

	May 1990	Apr 1990	Apr 1989	Percent Change Apr 90-Apr 89	Annual 1988	Annual 1989
Alabama Taxable Retail Sales ($1,000,000)						
Food	321	375	351	6.9	4,128	4,211
General merchandise	281	266	257	3.4	3,047	3,097
Apparel	70	77	70	10.3	933	932
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	84	80	79	1.4	1,035	1,026
Automotive	387	364	361	0.7	4,233	4,226
Gasoline service stations	30	26	25	3.9	294	308
Lumber and building materials	164	159	148	7.4	1,713	1,541
Hardware and farm implements	21	19	20	-5.5	234	236
Eating and drinking places	180	178	170	4.5	1,915	2,032
Drug stores	33	34	36	-4.0	418	410
Miscellaneous retail	134	128	125	2.8	1,641	1,686
Nonretail & unclassified	304	305	284	7.4	3,414	3,732
Total, all sales at retail	2,008	2,011	1,926	4.4	23,006	23,536

Notes and Sources: Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year. Shipments by water include both inbound and outbound shipments moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. Retail sales data represent sales at retail which are subject to sales tax as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because of late reporters. MSA and county level sales are estimated for multi-county firms using the 1985 disaggregation survey conducted by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Data estimates, thus, may not reflect current disaggregations for these firms. *Data on new passenger car registrations may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R.L. Polk and Company.

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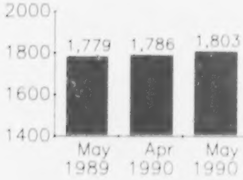
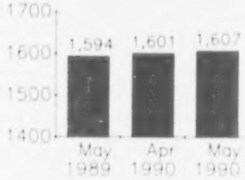
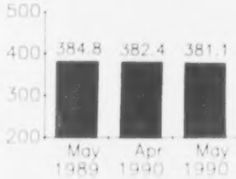
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



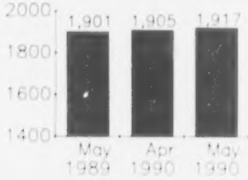
NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



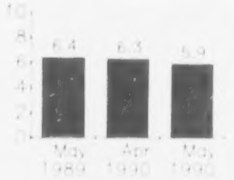
MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT
(Thousands)



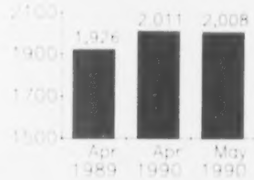
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
(Thousands)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(Percent)



TOTAL RETAIL SALES
($ Millions)



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All correspondence should be addressed to: Editor, __Alabama Business__, Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama, Box 870221, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0221. Phone (205)348-6191.

Center for Business and Economic Research
The University of Alabama
Box 870221
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0221
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